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PROFILE OF INVOLUNTARY HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS

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The involuntary hospital treatment is presented as one of the most current problems in psychiatry at all, but not enough explored in Serbia. Because of extremely high percentage of involuntary hospitalized mentally ill people in Serbia, it's particularly important to study all aspects of involuntary hospitalization. The aim of this paper is to determine recognizable profile of involuntary hospitalized patients, based on a detailed analysis of the social-demographic characteristics. This study included 8762 patients, hospitalized in Special Hospital for Psychiatric Disorders Gornja Toponica nearby Nis, during the period of five calendar years. There were 2812 voluntary hospitalized patients (32.1%) and 5950 involuntary hospitalized patients (67.9%). Comparative analysis of the involuntary hospitalized, showed statistically significantly greater number of male patients, not of the Serbian national or ethnic origin, who were not married, unemployed, who reside in southeastern Serbia outside the place where the hospital is located. Given the fact that 1298 patients or 21.8% of total involuntary hospitalized were hospitalized because of F10 (Disordines mentales et disordines morum propter usum alcholis), the paper discusses details of the validity for the involuntary hospitalization in these and other diagnostic categories. This data is a valuable contribution to the forthcoming reform of psychiatric services in the Republic of Serbia and practical contribution to the changing criteria for involuntary hospitalization to its reduction.