

EV1379

Example of alert and reporting system of scopolamine poisoning among Parisian cocaine users at regional, national and European levels

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Introduction In the literature, few intoxications are related to scopolamine due to its presence in cocaine, heroin or even in counterfeit rohypnol tablets. Nonetheless, during summer 2016, several cases of non-fatal intoxication appeared in the region of Paris.

Objectives Demonstrate how clinical detection of rare toxic events are fostered by exchanges in close collaboration with different territorial level.

Aims Improve the detection of short toxic epidemic.

Methods Suspected cases of scopolamine poisoning notified to Parisian Addictovigilance centre were reported. Information shared through different levels of the alert process contributed to strengthen their assessment.

Results Seventeen cases of probable scopolamine poisoning among cocaine users were registered between the 6 and 24 of July. In the first 4 cases, toxicological analysis, of blood samples were scopolamine positive, with high concentration between 7 ng/mL and 25 ng/mL (usual therapeutic range: 0.1 to 1.1 ng/mL). A collected sample of this cocaine powder had a purity of 23.2%, with 15.2% of scopolamine. Half time of scopolamine is longer than half time of cocaine (3–8 hours versus 1–2 hours): this could explain why the observed effects lasted over 24 hours (8/17). Main clinical features were mydriasis (15/17), high blood pressure (12/17), tachycardia (13/17), behavioural disorder with agitation (13/17), hallucinations (5/17), and coma (8/17). Practitioner's responsiveness and the extensive information sharing [MM1] between regional and European level were congruent.

Conclusions Adulterated street drugs can lead to short toxic epidemic which could be unnoticed. Emerging event should require careful assessment with linkage between risk assessors and risk managers.

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The perception and attitudes of nursing staff in state psychiatric hospitals regarding the causes and treatment of substance abuse and effecting factors

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Objective This study was performed with the aims of determining the perceptions of nursing staff in psychiatric hospitals regarding the causes and treatment of substance addiction as well as their attitudes towards people with substance abuse problems.

Method This study was carried out with 389 nurses working at 5 state psychiatry hospitals in Turkey. In this study, demographic questionnaire, the causes of drug abuse scale (CADAS), drug abuse scale (CUDAS), attitudes scale (AS), and a demographic questionnaire were used. Independent sample *t*-test, variance, correlation, and linear regression analyses were used.

Results In this study, 82.8% of the nurses were female, and the mean age was 33.79 ± 7.58. We found that the demographic characteristics of the nurses did not affect their perception regarding the causes of addiction and treatment ($P > 0.05$); but it did have an effect upon their attitude towards people with substance use problem ($P < 0.05$). Also, it was established that there was a negative relationship between their perception regarding causes of substance misuse and their attitude towards a person with substance use problem; and a positive relationship between their perception regarding substance misuse treatment and their attitude towards the person with substance use problem ($P < 0.05$).

Conclusion Nursing staff working in psychiatric hospitals in Turkey have the perception that a person takes substances in order to “cope with problems” and for reasons pertaining to his/her “social environment”. Nursing staff tends to indicate a negative attitude towards persons with substance abuse problems, such distancing themselves socially from the patients.

Keywords Nurse; Addiction; Substance abuse; Treatment; Psychiatry hospital

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Evaluation of dynamics of neurocognitive indicators and pathological craving in patients with dependence on synthetic cannabinoids during use of microwave resonance therapy

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Background There is no unequivocal estimation of influence of synthetic cannabinoids on health of the users, their influence on neurocognitive functions and their correction with use of microwave resonance therapy (MRT).

Objective To evaluate dynamics of pathological craving and neurocognitive functions in patients with dependence on synthetic cannabinoids during use of MRT.

Materials and methods Thirty-two patients (main group with dependence on synthetic cannabinoids with MRT) and 38 patients (control group with medication and without MRT) were examined. Craving was evaluated with “Drug Craving Scale”; efficiency with CGI. For evaluation of psychophysiological functions we used methods: “number square”, “balance-tranquility”, “verbal memory”, “linear visual estimation”, “exclusion of the word”.

Results and discussion After therapy, stopping of symptoms of pathological craving was observed in the main group as 29.6% as more than in control group, improvement according to CGI as 37.1% as more than in control one. The evaluation of neurocognitive indicators was conducted. Attention: in the main group improved by