

ALCOHOL MISUSE IN PATIENT OF EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

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Introduction: Alcohol abuse is the cause of many somatic diseases, more severe illness manifestation, and the premature patient deaths.

Aims: The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence and severity of alcohol abuse and dependence among patients with a c somatic diseases hospitalized in emergency multidisciplinary hospital.

Methods: Within five days, 807 patients were examined with the help of clinical and psychometric tools: specially designed patient study card, Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) and Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS). In addition, all patients were tested for AST, ALT, GGT, and blood ethanol. In 1.5 months treatment outcomes were analyzed.

Results: The study revealed a high percentage of patients with substance abuse disorders (about a quarter). The vast majority of them (80%) had a problems with alcohol. About the same number of patients admitted to hospital in varying degrees of alcohol intoxication. Among patients admitted to somatic hospitals, "hidden" contingent of people who have problems with alcohol is much greater than the "left out" (who consulted in the specialized addiction outpatient clinic). The majority of this hidden contingent did not seek any specialized treatment. Alcohol was found as a significant risk factor for urgent hospitalization, more severe disease manifestation and outcome. Alcohol problem were often observed in toxicology patients, patients with head injury, burns, diseases of the central and peripheral nervous system and diabetes.

Conclusions: A program for qualified treatment intervention in somatic patients with alcohol problems is needed.