

## P-30 - CLINICAL CORRELATIONS HIV INFECTION IN PATIENTS MAINTAINING SUBSTITUTION TREATMENT WITH METHADONE

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**Introduction and objectives:** Opiate dependence is a significant risk factor for HIV infection.

**Aims:** An assessment of differences between opiate addicts with and without HIV infection.

**Method:** 171 opiate dependent patients treated with methadone were asked about: length of dependence, age of onset of opiate dependence, dosage of methadone, effects of methadone on interviewed subjects and HIV infection.

**Results:** In our sample 72 (42%) subjects had HIV infection (HIV+) and 99 (58%) subjects had not HIV infection (HIV-). Comparison of 99 HIV (-) patients with 72 HIV (+) patients revealed that in HIV (+) group there were statistically significantly more women (40 vs. 25%), patients were older (39 vs. 36 years old), had longer length of dependence (22 vs. 16 years), had longer time of maintained methadone treatment (63 vs. 26 months). It was also found that HIV (+) patients had earlier age of onset of opiate dependence than the patients in HIV (-) group (18 vs. 19 years old,  $p=0,058$ ).

**Conclusion:** Our research may suggest that HIV infection had correlation with the course of methadone substitution treatment of opiate dependence.