

check-list, Beck depression inventory and the Scale for evaluation of bullying behaviour in their schools. Their parents also completed Overt aggression check-list and Beck depression inventory.

Results: Adolescents who presented themselves as bullies in school had more aggression in their families than those adolescents who were not involved in school violence. Also adolescents whose parents had high scores on the Beck depression inventory and had autodestructive impulses had statistically higher scores on the Overt aggression check-list compared with other group of adolescents whose parents were not depressed. We documented that 17% of adolescents were victims of school bullying. Those adolescents had statistically significant higher scores on the Beck depression inventory than the adolescents who were not involved in the school violence.

Conclusion: The present study revealed that the level of aggression in families has influence on the aggressive behaviour of adolescents in their schools.

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Suicidal ideation in Viennese secondary school pupils

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Objective: We assessed the prevalence of lifetime suicidal ideation and associated psychosocial factors among Viennese secondary school pupils.

Method: An anonymous self-report survey which assessed the major psychiatric risk factors of teen suicide, as well as demographic characteristics, was completed by pupils of three Viennese secondary schools (n=214).

Results: Eighty-one (37.9%) secondary school pupil reported ever having suicidal thoughts, girls significantly more often than boys (48.5% vs. 29.1%, p=.004). Furthermore, lifetime suicidal ideation among Viennese secondary school pupils was associated with living in "broken-home" families, cigarette smoking, substance problem (alcohol/drugs), self-reported depression, and school type. After adjusting for confounders, we found that female gender, substance problem, school type and cigarette smoking were significantly associated with lifetime suicidal ideation among secondary school pupils in Vienna.

Conclusions: In context of suicide prevention, attention should be paid to the psychosocial factors associated with pupils' suicidal ideation.

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Adolescent general health in Tehran

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Background and aims: There is little data about assessment of general health among Iranian adolescents. We aimed at studying the general health of 3rd grade high school students in Tehran.

Methodology: In a cross sectional study representative sample of 3rd grade high school students were selected using multistage random sampling taking each school as cluster. The General Health Questionnaire (GHQ12) was administered to the students in absence of the teachers. Questions about physical activity and demographics were also included. The cut off value for GHQ score was determined using Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve against self reported general health taken as gold standard. The scores equal or higher than the cut off were assumed as high. Proportion of the students with high GHQ score was calculated by age and sex. Comparison of the proportions was made using Chi square test.

Results: Of 4842 students studied 55% were 17 and 45% were 18 years old. It included 2444 (56%) girls. The cut off of 4.5 for GHQ score was obtained. The area under the curve was 0.89 (0.95CI, 0.85-0.89, p<0.001) with sensitivity of 0.86 and specificity of 0.69. The proportion of high GHQ was 46% and the girls had higher (49.8% versus 40.5%) (p<0.001). The high GHQ score in 18 years old was higher than that for 17 years old students (928,48.2% vs.1040,43.6%, p<0.005). Those who assessed their general health as "very good" had lower GHQ score than those who assessed themselves as "very bad" (410, 29.4% vs. 54, 84.5%) (p=0.000). Students with higher level of physical activity had lower GHQ score comparing with those with lower physical activity (490,35.4% vs. 660,63.5%) (p=0.000).

Conclusion: Proportion of minor mental disorders is high in Adolescents. Girls are more vulnerable to the mental disorders. Better mental health was associated with higher levels of physical activity.

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Prevalence and behavioral correlates of enuresis in preschool children

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Objectives: Previous studies, based on clinic samples, report that enuresis in children is associated with behavior problems but the relationship between behavior problems and enuresis remains controversial. This population-based study investigates the prevalence and behavioral correlates of enuresis in a group of preschool children.

Methods: This cross-sectional survey involved 370 parents and their 5 to 7 years old children, all residents of Istanbul, Turkey. Parents completed the Child Behavior Checklist and sociodemographic data form. Fifty-three children with enuresis were compared to 303 nonsymptomatic children. Differences in the mean scores and the percentages of children falling beyond preselected clinical thresholds were compared across the groups.

Results: The prevalence of enuresis was 14.9 and enuresis was more frequent among boys. Children with enuresis were reported by their parents to have greater social problems and total problem scores compared with control children (p = 0,019, p = 0,048 respectively). However there were no differences in the percentages of children falling beyond preselected clinical thresholds among the groups.

Conclusions: Enuresis is common in 5 to 7 years-old children. As a group, children with enuresis differ from children without enuresis on behavioral parameters, children with enuresis had the higher mean scores of behavioral problems than do controls, however clinically

relevant behavioral problems did not show differences between groups. Given the inconsistent research findings across studies, the longitudinal research and outcome effect studies could help determine whether there is a causal relationship between psychopathology and enuresis.

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Revolving door and human resources in a community mental health system

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Background and aims: Andalusia is the most highly populated (7,849,799 hab.) region of the Spanish State. It has all the sanitary domains under its own Health Service (Consejería de Salud), and it has undertaken a deep reorganization of the psychiatric services, establishing a new model based on the mental health communitarian alternative that is already completely implanted. Rates of readmission are a method to assess the quality of care and an important tool in the planning of services of mental health.

The aim of this study is to establish if readmission rates are influenced by Human Resources in Psychiatric Community Devices.

Part of FIS Project PI05/90061 'Patterns of General Hospital Psychiatric Units Overuse'.

Method: MBDS is a system of hospital register that gathers all the discharges produced in the andalusian hospitals. It is totally trustworthy from 1995, and we have processed data up to 2004.

Our Data Set register 101234 hospital admissions of psychiatric patients.

Results: The number of admissions from patients who enter three times or more throughout the year has been: 22.66%(1995); 24.66%(1996); 31.01%(1997); 30.72%(1998); 34.07%(1999); 35.35%(2000); 36.92%(2001); 32.93%(2002); 31.20%(2003) and 29.36%(2004).

On the other hand, it has been an increase in Mental Health Human Resources Rates: 24.23-100.000 inhab-(1998); 24.19 (1999); 26.01(2000); 28.04(2001); 29.83(2002); 29.16(2003); 29.34(2004) and 29.90(2005).

Conclusion: Increasing human resources in psychiatric community devices do not change revolving-door rates in general hospital acute psychiatric units in a community mental health system.

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Suicide in south Tyrol

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Preface: South Tyrol is a province of Italy bordering on Austria with 500.000 inhabitants, comprising three different ethnic-linguistic groups (German, Italian and Ladin) whose suicide rate is two times higher than the Italian average.

Goal of the research: The following ecological research tries analyse the existence of some risk factors that differentiate South Tyrol from the rest of Italy explaining the greater number of suicides.

Method: Between 1999 and 2006 almost 300 suicide cases were gathered and analysed with the descriptive interference method. The records have been elaborated considering different variables.

Results: Among the results two records are of particular interest:

1. A significantly higher risk of suicide in the German speaking population compared to the Italian one (the records of the Ladin speaking population are not significant).
2. There is a higher suicidal tendency in the rural areas compared to the urban ones.

Conclusions: Such as in all epidemiological descriptive surveys there is no causal explanation for the instance that the German speaking group is characterized by a suicide risk which is 1,3 times higher than the Italian speaking group. It remains unanswered if the high number of suicide in the German speaking population is due to a selection variable; for example that the areas populated by the latter (mainly rural areas) present another variable (high alcoholism, different familiar cohesion, etc.) than the mother language. In this case the affiliation to a linguistic group would be considered a confusing variable among other causal factors.

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Actual treatment for elderly patients with depression

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As the patient gets older, the medical treatment for the depression gets more and more complicated as the number of possible interactions between these drugs increases.

An average elderly person of 65 years takes around 8 pills a day, and whenever they have 2 or more pills simultaneously the possibility of creating an adverse reaction increases again enormously. Generally, medical interactions depend on the dose. A good advice would be "start slowly and continue slowly" in order to obtain the better result taking the shortest possible dose.

It is very important to reduce the amount of drugs, to adjust the dose and to choose the right medicine in order to avoid adverse reactions. We should also take into account the documented medical interactions concerning the wide variety of antidepressants and specific medicines of each type.

Each depression requires an individualized treatment, adjusted to each case, especially those of elderly patients. There is not yet a medicine effective for all the cases. Sometimes people are given a treatment which has already been proved and that may show different results, as the individual response depends on a lot of factors.

We introduce here the principal characteristics, of the main antidepressants used nowadays for elderly patients, as well as their medical interactions, and their pros and cons.

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Sudden infant death syndrome and psychiatric disorders

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Background and aims: Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the main cause of infant death in the first year of life. SIDS has been