

**S36** *Continuity and discontinuity: ...***A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF ISRAELI ADOLESCENT IN-PATIENTS**

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The frequency of diagnostic shift and the stability of diagnoses were investigated in 351 Israeli adolescent in-patients. Diagnosis at first admission was made according to ICD-9. 82 patients (23.4%) fulfilled the diagnostic criteria for schizophrenia, 55 (15.7%) for personality disorders, 64 patients (18.3%) were diagnosed as having TAP, a form of brief psychosis not part of the ICD classification, 37 (10.5%) for anxiety disorders, 20 (5.7%) for organic brain syndrome (OBS), and 4 (3.1%) for affective disorders. The remaining patients were diagnosed heterogeneously. Results indicated that the stability of different diagnoses over time was higher between the second and last admissions compared to that between the first and second admissions. The following kappa values were found: anxiety disorders (0.79), personality disorder (0.66) and schizophrenia (0.57). The lowest stability (0.25) was noted in patients with TAP. 66% of patients with a diagnosis of TAP at first admission received a final diagnosis of schizophrenia. The rate of schizophrenia was higher on second admission (30%) compared to first admission (23%). The number of hospitalizations and the time spent in hospital differed significantly between the TAP and the schizophrenic patients ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**S37** *Alcohol abuse and dependance: ...***PRESENTATION OF THE PLINIUS MAJOR SOCIETY**

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The Plinius Major Society is a European society of clinicians and researchers striving towards a comprehensive care concept for the management of alcohol dependence.

The Society endeavours to promote and advance the understanding of preventive, therapeutic and research aspects of alcohol dependence and alcohol related problems through exchange and dissemination of information. The Plinius members promote joint research and assessment of methodological and related matters, with emphasis on multidisciplinary interaction between clinical, social and basic sciences.

Founded in 1990, the Plinius Major Society has published guidelines on evaluation of treatment of alcohol dependence and is editing a flow-chart for the general practitioners for the detection and assessment of alcohol related problems in primary care. The Society is elaborating didactic material for the patients and has opened a database on the Internet.

**S37** *Alcohol abuse and dependance: ...*

Symposium "ALCOHOL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE, THE PROBLEM OF PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY", presented by the PLINIUS MAJOR SOCIETY.

Alcoholism and psychiatric disorders frequently coexist in the same patient. The Plinius Major Society, a multidisciplinary group of European clinicians and researchers in the field of alcohol related problems, is presenting six papers aiming at improving the diagnosis and treatment of comorbid patients.

After a description of the Plinius Major society by J. Besson, Switzerland, F. Poldrugo, Italy, will present data on anxiety disorders and alcohol dependence. The relationship between alcohol and suicide will be discussed by J. Barrias, Portugal. Personality disorders, such as antisocial personality are among the most difficult to address in a comorbid condition with alcohol dependence: J.D. Chick, UK, will speak about treating alcoholic offenders. Psycho-organic damages will be presented by P. Verbanck, Belgium. O.M. Lesch will show data from a European multicentric study on alcohol dependence comparing the comorbidity between the different centres. Finally, H. Sass, Germany, will discuss some predictors of outcome in the treatment of alcohol dependence with acamprosate.

**S37** *Alcohol abuse and dependance: ...***Treating Alcoholic Offenders - Ethics and Efficacy**

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The association between alcohol and crime is well established. Offenders dependent on alcohol, who are helped to stop drinking, re-offend at lower rates than untreated alcohol dependent offenders. Coercion into treatment poses ethical dilemmas. However, patients mandated into treatment for alcohol dependence have been shown in many studies to do as well as "voluntary" patients. This has been shown to apply to treatment of offenders using Disulfiram. Procedures are described for supervising disulfiram when Court sentence is deferred. Supervised disulfiram improves outcome in terms of drinking, and reduces liver function test abnormality compared to patients randomised to a control group. Enhancing motivation to follow psychosocial treatment and/or newer pharmacotherapy treatments needs further evaluation.