

efficiency of Trazodon in treating depressive disorder with alcoholics who were treated at the department for alcohol addiction in Special Psychiatric Hospital Toponica in the period May–October 2007 (18 patients). For our research we used Beck's scale (Beck and associates) to evaluate the degree of depression. The research lasted for six weeks (average length of hospitalization). After the first week of treatment there was a progress concerning sleeping and reduction of anxiety. The anti-depressing score was evident already after two weeks, there also has been a remarkable dropping of the amount on Beck's scale for evaluation of depression. Throughout the research of the efficiency with depression symptomatology, the daily dosage for alcoholics wasn't over the 200 mg (mostly 150 mg). During 6 weeks of clinical study Trazodon successfully reduced the symptoms of depression in alcohol addicts and after hospitalized treatment significantly helped to maintain abstinence. It was equally used on young and elderly patients and there haven't been notices of any negative effects.

P0025

Addiction problems among high school students in two Polish cities

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Background: According to the studies drug addiction is an increasing problem affecting especially children and young people. It is assumed that about 60% of the drug addicts are found in the age range between 10 and 24.

Aims: The aim of this study were to estimate the general knowledge about drug addiction among secondary and vocational schools students in Zabrze, Poland and Tomaszów Lubelski, Poland, to compare the scales of the problem between studied schools, and to appreciate the level of drug abuse prevention.

Methods: 280 students were included into the study. A two-part anonymous inquiry was implemented. The first part included questions about age, sex, living conditions, family and knowledge on drug abuse phenomenon. In the second part the questions regarded psychoactive substances.

Results: The results show that secondary school graduates have a better knowledge about drugs than vocational school students, the scale of drug addiction problem is higher in schools of Tomaszów Lubelski than in Zabrze, the young people use drugs despite their knowledge of their harmful effects on human organism, boys use drugs more frequently than girls, and the drug abuse prevention in schools is not sufficient.

Conclusions: The analysis of the knowledge on addiction among students in two Polish cities may be useful in creating proper prevention programs.

P0026

Family support & substance abuse during puberty

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A high percentage of research suggests that support by the family, friends and society is related with limited occurrence of psychological symptoms. The results of studies, conducted with samples of

adults, lead to the conclusion that societal support is negatively correlated with substance abuse. Also, concerning young people, parental support, which gives emphasis on emotional and material aspects is a protecting factor. Family support is a relationship of closeness and trust between children and parents. Furthermore, there is evidence that children have better coping mechanisms in terms of negative events and they confront their consequences with positive attitude, when they are emotionally supported by their parents. The benefits of emotional support develop in two forms, either by increasing the protector factors, or by reducing the risk factors. In this investigation, three case-studies are presented and analyzed. Subjects selected were of the same sex (male) and of the same age-group (17 years, 18 years and 22 years old). Results indicated that the interaction between the family affect directly the ways self-destructive behavior as it could be avoided, held or prevented. Lack of boundaries and ambiguous roles create high levels of entropy in any family system. This increased entropy is represented by self-destructed behavior; one of them is substance abuse.

P0027

Tobacco, alcohol and Marijuana use among adolescents and young adults in transitional society of Serbia

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Introduction: Socio-cultural context of transition society intensifies overall risks of use and misuse of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs.

Aim: To determine the prevalence of tobacco, alcohol and marijuana use among adolescents and young adults in Serbia.

Method: The study included 3180 participants aged between 16 and 35 years from different, both urban and rural, parts of Serbia. Collection of data was conducted in May 2003. Participants completed self-administered anonymous questionnaires (modified YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOUR SURVEY) that consisted of sociodemographic characteristics and experiences related to alcohol, tobacco and marijuana use.

Results: Majority of participants (64%) reported experience with smoking cigarettes at least once, while 51% smoke regularly. Prevalence of smoking was by 10% higher among males. Overall, 75% of the participants reported lifetime alcohol use, and 19% reported drinking alcohol at the age of fifteen or younger. Of the total number 36% experienced alcohol-induced blackouts at least once a month. Males were prone to blackouts significantly more often than females (3:1). The overall prevalence of marijuana use among participants was 32%. During one month before survey 10% of participants had smoked marijuana. Our study showed that the risk of marijuana use in regular cigarette smokers is two-fold higher than in non-smokers. Alcoholism of both parents and family dysfunctionality were related to significantly higher risk of marijuana use.

Conclusion: Early tobacco use, history of family disorganization and parental alcoholism were identified as factors related to increased risk of alcohol and marijuana abuse among adolescents and young adults in Serbia.

P0028

Prevalence of drug dependence in Beta-Thalassemia major patients and its risk factors

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Object: Beta thalassemia is a hereditary disease of hemoglobin synthesis that causes mild to severe microcytic anemia and hemosiderosis in many organs that finally results in organ failure in severe cases. Many of them need blood transfusion. Drug dependence is a recurrent and chronic problem that has two aspects: bodily (physiologic) and behavioral.

Methods and Materials: A total of 207 β thalassemic patients were randomly selected upon 810 β thalassemic patients that referred to Shiraz Coolys Center in May-July 2005, south of Iran. We studied the prevalence of addiction in these patients and compared it with normal population. We also evaluated probable risk factors of drug dependence. There was no other study found worldwide.

Results: Out of 207 patients, 19 (9.2%) patients were drug dependent and their most common motivation was acquisition of enjoyment. Between several risk factors that were studied, only sex (male), marital status (single), history of past surgery and existence of another addict person in their family were statistically important ($0.01 < P \text{ value} < 0.05$).

Discussion: Although the prevalence of addiction in thalassemic patients (9.2%) was near the same in normal population of Fars province (10.2%) and Iran (12.5%), but it still has a high prevalence and it should be considers as a psychosocial problem. As this study was the first study done on this subject we hope that in future there'll be more studies to help these patients to have a better life style and live longer with better health and life expectancy.

P0029

Anxiolytic activity of Atrial Natriuretic Peptide and β -Endorphin during acute Ethanol withdrawal in mice

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Background: Dysregulation in the neuroendocrine stress system has been attributed repeatedly to the stressful and anxiogenic state observed during alcohol withdrawal. Activity of the atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP) has been shown to inhibit the release of corticotrophin releasing hormone (CRH) and corticotrophin (ACTH) and opioid neurotransmission also plays a role in counteracting effects of sustained stress by facilitating the termination of the hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenocortical (HPA) axis stress response. Thus ANP and β -endorphin may be involved in modulating the HPA axis activity in alcohol withdrawal. Aim of the study was to evaluate the anxiolytic activity of ANP and β -endorphin during alcohol withdrawal in mice habituated to chronic alcohol intake.

Methods: 24 male mice (C57/Bl6J) were studied following 21 days of free-choice and forced alcohol intake. Anxiety related behavior (elevated plus maze, open field) was tested during acute ethanol withdrawal (12 hours after last ethanol consumption). 30 minutes before testing, randomized groups of mice were given i.p. injections of ANP (60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$), β -endorphin (2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$) or saline.

Results: Acute alcohol withdrawal in alcohol habituated mice was associated with increased anxiety related behavior. Application of both, β -endorphin and ANP, was significantly associated with reduced anxiety related behavior.

Conclusions: Taking into consideration data from studies in humans, where decreased levels of β -endorphin and ANP were

associated with anxiety during acute and protracted alcohol withdrawal, our results suggest a causal relationship between ANP, β -endorphin and withdrawal-induced anxiety in alcohol related disorders.

P0030

Using the Finnish internet addiction test version to measure heavy use of the web

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Background & Aims: The interest on the possible problems that might be associated with heavy use of the web has increased. The aim of this study was to test the correlates and validity of the Finnish version of the Internet Addiction Test.

Methods: 1825 students filled a web-based questionnaire that included questions on socio-demographic background factors, reasons for use of the internet, symptom score measures and questions of use of substances. The back-translation of the Internet Addiction Test (IAT) was reviewed by the developer of the scale.

Results: Almost all (99.6%) respondents used the web more than once a week. Those with a CAGE score 2 or above had a mean of 39.4 on the IAT and those below 2 had a mean of 35 on the IAT ($p < 0.001$). Those who were more distressed had a higher mean score on the IAT than those who did not reach the cut-point for being distressed (43.8 vs. 35.2, respectively, $p < 0.001$). High IAT score was also significantly associated with use of the internet for chatting and sexual purposes ($p < 0.001$). Using factor analysis, we found a two factor solution: 1) a depressive isolation factor (eigenvalue 15.02) and 2) loss of control factor (eigenvalue 1.53). The Cronbach- α for the sum factors were 0.91 and 0.81 respectively.

Conclusions: The IAT seems to provide a valid measurement of harmful use of the internet as the score was significantly associated with variables tapping psychopathology. Most of the variance in the score of IAT is explained by depressive isolation.

P0031

The life-line. Dramatherapy and drug addiction

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I am working with Dramatherapy method more than 17 years in different therapeutic centers for drug addiction and this abstract is focusing to specific technique, the "life – line".

It is requested from the participants to draw their life up to now as a "metro-line", marking the most interest stations in their itinerary and the most remarkable person in each station, following ups and downs ways between stations, according their mood in every period.

When this process is completed, it is requested from the members of the group to organize in the place their "life-line" with the most important stations in their lives and put the members of the group in roles of the represented persons in each station. Then, they pass in front of these persons, having a contact with one phrase with them, in order to understand, comprehend and reframing their relations up to now.

The results of the application are:

- 1) The clients "see" their life as a journey, with two phases, before and after drug use.
- 2) They have the opportunity to deal with the moment they began to use drugs.