
ABUSE OF ALCOHOL IS LINKED WITH YOUNGER AGE OF SUICIDE

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BACKGROUND

The high number of suicides drew attention to medical professionals. In Europe suicide is one of the leading cause of death caused by intentional and unintentional injuries. Alcohol abuse is linked to poor impulse control, aggression and suicide behaviour.

AIMS

We tried to evaluate the level and the impact of alcohol usage in individuals which committed suicide.

METHODS

There were collected all the date provided by the archives of forensic services of Brasov county between 2002 and 2012 regarding age, sex, marital status, methods of suicide and blood alcohol concentration.

RESULTS

The statistics included 589 men (83%) and 121 women (17%), sex ratio B:F=4.87. The mean age of the study group was 48.15 years. The individuals which had used alcohol before committing suicide were significantly younger than those who didn't used alcohol (45.87 vs. 50.19, $p < 0.005$). There were a significant difference between individuals with violent methods of suicide compared with others in terms of age and blood alcohol concentration.

CONCLUSIONS

The abuse of alcohol is strongly linked with suicide, especially when individuals exhibit high levels of blood alcohol concentration. This behaviour is linked with younger age of suicide.