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Gender related differences in heroin addicts: trauma and comorbidity

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Objectives: The aim of this poster is to examine gender related differences in opiate addicts concerning stressful live events preceding the evolution of addiction and psychiatric comorbidity.

Methods: 350 opiate addicts, who were either in treatment or in contact with addition services were observed. This observation is part of a prospective 5-year longitudinal follow-up study. The Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI) and the European Addiction Severity Index (EuropASI) were the main instruments.

Results: Great differences concerning live events like "loss of a friend" or "wish to die" but also concerning stressful live events as e.g. sexual abuse could have been shown. There were also significant differences between men and women referring to family situation and psychiatric comorbidity.

Conclusions: The existing treatment has to be adapted to the special needs of addicted women. They should offer family approach and include partners. Separation of addicted women from their children should be avoided. A systematic survey of stressful live events preceding evolution of addiction is obligatory.

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Therapy of insomnia in heroin patients

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One of the most wide spread disorder in withdrawal syndrome in heroin depended patients is insomnia. There were investigated 40 inpatients suffered with the heroin abuse by clinical and psychological methods. They were taking drug from 1 to 3 years. 34 of them (85%) complained on the lack of sleeping and 21 (52%) on the early wake up.

During the rehabilitation period we investigated the influence of IMOVAN on the personal psychological characteristics of patients with insomnia. These group was compared with another one (20) of the same problem, that was cared with NITROZEPAM.

The results of investigation showed that IMOVAN improved such dream characteristics as time of sleeping, its quality after the first taking of the medicine. The stable characteristics of the dream 75% of the patients marked on the 7...9 day of therapy.

So, the investigation we have conducted showed that using IMOVAN within the complex of therapeutic and rehabilitation measures played the significant role in the sleeping and was good for the whole mental state of patients.

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Drug abuse among Bosnian adolescents and its risk related behaviour

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Objective: To investigate drug abuse among Bosnian adolescents and to compare results with school performance and delinquency.

Methods: Results are based on self-reports students aged 12-17.

Results: Among total number of 598 adolescents 6,69% had abuse cigarettes; 15,55 alcohol; and 3,34% cannabis. Gender difference was: among smokers: 57,5% male and 42,5% female; among

alcohol abusers: 68,8% male and 31,2% female; cannabis abusers: 55% male and 45% females. Mean ages were 15-17 year: smokers 82,5%; alcohol abusers: 71%; cannabis abusers: 85%. Poor school performance have had 25% smokers. 57,5% smokers were truant from school. Criminal behaviour, such as stealing reported 30,0% smokers.

Among alcohol abusers 14,0% reported poor school performance 44,1% truancy from school. Criminal behaviour reported 22,2% alcohol abusers. Among cannabis abusers 30,0% reported poor school performance. Truancy from school among cannabis abusers reported with 80,0% Criminal behaviour among cannabis abusers was 35,0%. Correlation is the most significant between alcohol and drug abuse.

Conclusion: the data indicate that drug abuse is strongly associated with other problem behaviours which needs to be considered when designing prevention and intervention.

P56. Telemedicine in psychiatry**P56.01**

Internet-based psychiatric assessment of tinnitus patients

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While psychological problems like depression and anxiety are repeatedly reported among tinnitus patients, these conditions are seldom assessed using validated diagnostic instruments. A potentially cost-effective way to collect data on psychiatric disturbance is to use the Internet. The aim of this study was to administer the World Health Organization's Composite International Diagnostic Interview - Short form (CIDI-SF) in a computerized Internet-based version to a sample of tinnitus patients.

The CIDI-SF was developed to evaluate hierarchy-free diagnoses according to the definitions and criteria of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (American Psychiatric Association, 1994). In the form used here data on 12-month prevalence were collected from 48 tinnitus patients who completed the CIDI-SF via the Internet. Evaluation of CIDI-SF data yields a probability of caseness ranging from 0.0 to 1.0 for the disorders of major depression, generalized anxiety, specific phobia, social phobia, agoraphobia, panic attack, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), alcohol dependence and drug dependence. The score is interpreted as the probability that the respondent would meet the full diagnostic criteria if given the complete CIDI interview. The WHO guidelines for scoring the CIDI-SF gives two sets of cut-off scores/probabilities: a) probable case, and b) maximum likelihood of being a case.

Using the cut-off for 'probable case', 69% of the tinnitus patients fulfilled the criteria for depression, 60% for GAD, 83% for specific phobia, 67% for social phobia, 58% for agoraphobia, 21% panic attack, 85% OCD, 2% alcohol dependence, and 0% drug dependence. As these percentages indicated a high 12-month prevalence, we applied the maximum case criteria. This decreased the percentages for depression (4%), specific phobia (62%), and social phobia (27%).

In conclusion, the results from this investigation show that the Internet can be used to collect information on psychiatric disturbances and the results are in line with previous studies on psychiatric comorbidity in tinnitus patients using structured psychiatric interviews. In these studies high rates of depression have been found, but in this study we also found a high rate of anxiety disorders. Cut-off criteria according to the WHO recommendation may need to be adjusted for future Internet use.