

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES AND TREATMENT RESULTS OF THE ANATOLIA CLINICS INPATIENTS

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Alcohol Use Disorders are common in all populations. Approximately 7.5 % of the population can be diagnosed with Alcohol Use Disorder (Pies, 1994).

Alcohol use increases between the ages of 21-34 (Goodwin, 1989). The negative effects of alcohol use are generally not seen in those ages.

Alcohol use and dependence can have some differences between males and females.

The ratio of alcohol dependence for males and females is between 3:1–5:1 (APA, 1994).

Alcohol use decreases with age.

THE AIM OF STUDY

Sociodemographic and clinical characteristics of inpatients are compared with early term treatment outcomes (remission and relapse ratio) in this study.

METHOD

Three hundred sixty-eight (n=368) inpatients who were diagnosed as alcohol dependent according to DSM IV in 1997 were included into our study.

Sociodemographic and clinical characteristics of patients are evaluated according to the inpatient files and in May 1998 the conditions related to alcohol use of the patients are learned by phone calls and letter or by investigating the outpatient clinic reports.

RESULTS

Three hundred sixty-eight (n=368) patients who were diagnosed as alcohol dependent according to DSM IV were hospitalized in Anatolia Clinics in 1997. 90.2 % (n=332) of them were male patients and 9.8% (n=36) of them were females.

TABLE 1:THE EDUCATIONAL AND MARITALSTATUS

	n	%
Marital status		
Single	43	11.8
Married	260	70.8
D Divorced	64	17.4
E Education		
Primary school	57	15.5
Highschool	199	54.1
College	112	30.4

The average time of alcohol use in our patient group was 20.3 (sd=9.3) years. This period was 13.8 (sd=11.0) in the female group and 21.0 in the male group. The age of beginning to use alcohol was 25.88(sd=7.5) in females and 20.8 in males. The difference between the two groups was statistically significant (f=20.3, p=0; f=21.0, p=0).

TABLE 2: SEVERE WITHDRAWAL

	n	%

No severe withdrawal	335	91.0
Delirium tremens	22	6.0
Seizures	4	1.1
DT with seizures	7	1.9

TABLE 3: DAILY CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

	n	%
35 cl/day (8 standart drink)	82	22.3
35-70 cl/day (8-16 sd)	240	65.2
More than 70 cl (more than 16)	46	12.5

TABLE 4: OTHER PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSES

	n	%
No additional psychiatric diagnosis	311	84.5
Depressive disorder	21	5.7
Anxiety Disorder	14	3.8
Other substance dependency in remission	10	2.7
Gambling	3	0.8
Personality Disorder	9	2.4

TABLE 5: LAST SITUATIONS

	n	%
In remission	217	59.0
Relapsed	39	10.6
Unknown	112	30.4

Follow-up period lasted for 8 months on the average.

CONCLUSIONS

The number of male patients was significantly higher than the number of female patients.

This result may be considered as indicating to the fact that female patients do not prefer to receive inpatient treatment in Turkey.

The other results which show that females start drinking alcohol at an older age and seek clinical help at an early stage are not discordant with preceding studies (APA 1994; Goodwin 1989).

Fifty-nine percent (59%) of the patients did not relapse in the eight-month follow-up time. This ratio is not discordant with other studies.