

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS IN ANATOLIA ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTER

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INTRODUCTION

Substance related disorders include drug abuse and dependence (including alcohol), illnesses caused by exposition of toxin and adverse effects of drugs. The term substance means the drug, medicine or toxin abused. These addictive substances can be classified into 11 classes as follows: alcohol, amphetamine, caffeine, cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants nicotine, opioids, PCP, anxiolitics-sedatives-hypnotics (1). Among the treatments for drug addiction hospital treatment is accepted as the best one (2). Unites specialized on addiction treatment have a big importance since detoxification, rehabilitation and treatment of psychiatric illnesses are possible (3).

The group of substance related disorders, is one of the leading social, economical, and health problems in most countries. This problem is also increasing in our country in recent years. The effects of the substance can also be seen on individual's family, social environmet and increasing numbers of new methods are developed for treatment of substance related disorders.

The abused substance influences the brain functions. Abusing a substance means to use it for some reasons except medical usages. Dependence consists of habitual and compulsive ways of consumption of a substance (4).

The aim of this study is to investigate the sociodemographical features and problems related to substance use in patients received hospital treatment in Anatolia Addiction Treatment Center in 1996.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

A semistructured interview form is used to evaluate patients by a psychiatrist. The patient using a substance is diagnosed according to DSM IV. Medical and psychiatric evaluation of patients and laboratory tests are completed on the other steps. SCID-P, SCID II, SCL 90 R, Hamilton Depression Scale are used in advanced evaluation of patients. In 1996, 688 patients using psychoactive drugs were hospitalized in Anatolia Addiction Treatment Center and all of them were included to the study. Their clinical files were evaluated retrospectively. The variables were sociodemographical properties, abused substances, starting ages to use the substance, treatments received in the past, countries of patients.

RESULTS

1. Demographical properties

Table-1 : Sexes of patients

SEX	n	%
FEMALE	89	12.9
MALE	599	87.1
TOTAL	688	100

Table-2 : Ages of patients

AGE	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
15-19	36	6	12	13.5	17.2	7.1
20-24	151	25.2	36	40.5	187	27.2
25-34	236	39.4	26	29.2	262	38
35+	176	29.4	15	16.8	191	27.7
TOPLAM	599	100	89	100	688	100

%87.1 of patients were male and %12.9 were female. %38 of patients were between 25-34 years old, %27.7 were in 35 and elder than 35, %27.2 were between 20-24 and %7.1 were between 15-19.

Table-3: Marital status of patients

Marital status	n	%
SINGLE	360	52.3
MARRIED	278	40.4
SEPARATED	7	1
WIDOW or DIVORCED	43	6.3
TOTAL	688	100

Table-4: Educational status of patients

Educational status	n	%
No education	3	0.4
Separated from primary education	45	6.6
Primary school	326	47.4
High school	265	38.5
University	49	7.1
TOTAL	688	100

The biggest group,%38.5 of patients were graduated from a high school

Table-5: Occupational status of patients

Occupation	n	%
No profession	200	29
Trade	75	11
Various professionals	68	10
Student	103	15
Driver	33	4.8
No occupation	187	27.2
Others	22	3
TOTAL	688	100

Table-6: Residing states of patients

With whom	n	%
Parent or family	564	82
Friend	33	4.8
Single	89	12.9
Homeless	2	0.3
TOTAL	688	100

A big part of the patients are living with their families or parents.

Table-7: National status of patients

Country	n	%
YUGOSLAVIA	3	0.7
SWITZERLAND	27	4
MACEDONIA	10	1.4
LIBYA	1	0.1
AUSTRIA	2	0.3
CYPRUS	1	0.1
ROMANIA	1	0.1
RUSSIA	4	0.5
GEORGIA	1	0.1
GERMANY	100	14.5
TURKEY	538	78.2
TOTAL	688	100

Table-8: Starting age to use substance

AGE	n	%
1.10	65	9.5
14-17	241	35
18-21	172	25
22-25	126	18.3
26-29	30	4.3
30-33	34	5
24-37	12	1.8
38+	8	1.1
TOTAL	688	100

% 35 of patients (n=241) started to use substance between 14-17 ages , %25 (n=172) started between 18-21 ages. %1.1 (n=8) started to use substance after 38 and %9.5 (n=65) started before they were 13 years old .

Table-9: Abused substance

SUBSTANCE	n	%
Heroin	307	44.7
Cannabis	15	2.2
Cocaine	13	1.9
Volatiles	6	0.8
Heroin+cocaine	69	10
Multiple substance	278	40.4
TOTAL	688	100

%44.7 (n=307) of patients were using only heroin and %40.4 (n=278) were abusing more than two substance.

Table-10: Substance abusing friends of patients

Friends	n	%
None	89	12.9
Someone	247	35.9
Most of friends	268	39
All of friends	84	12.2
TOTAL	688	100

Table-11: The number of medical treatment attempts

	n	%
1.	426	61.9
2.	130	18.9
3.	44	6.4
4.	37	5.4
5+	51	7.4
TOTAL	688	100

Table-12: Do they accepted themselves as an addicted

YES	466	67.7
NO	202	29.3
NOT SURE	20	3
TOTAL	688	100

%67.7 (n=466) of patients accepted themselves as addicted to any substance and %29.3 (n=202) do not accept any addiction to substances.

CONCLUSION

It is known that substance related disorders seem in male population more than females according to epidemiological studies (5).The rate of male population in our study were %87.1 (n= 599) and females were % 12.9 (n=89). Anthony and Helzer emphasized that the starting age could be find between 12 and 30 (6). The starting age in our study were mostly between 14 and 17 while the ages of subjects were clustered between 25 and 34 (% 39.4). It could be commented that there was a long time between the starting age and first treatment since %61.9 of patients received their first treatment.

Although most of the subjects (%52.3) were singles , %1 were separated and %6.3 were widows or divorced, % 82 of them were living with their parents.

A big group of patients (%44.7) were addicted only to heroin, %10 were using heroin and cocaine, and % 40.4 were using multiple substances with heroin. It was noticed that almost all of the patients addicted to heroin near other substances. % 67.7 accepted to be diagnosed as a dependent patient.The percentage of patients came from another country (Turkish or foreigner) were 21.8. %14. 5 of patients were from Turkish population living in Germany.

%35.9 of patients had a little number of friends using heroin while all of the friends of %39 were addicted to heroin. The other studies also emphasized the importance of the social environmet (7).

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