TATTOO AS A SUBCULTURE AND NEW FORM OF SUBSTANTIONAL ADDICTION: THE PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

I. Sosin¹

¹Narcology, Kharkov Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education, Kharkov, Ukraine

Introduction. Tattoo prevalence among young people assumed epidemic. It transformed into tattoo-addiction (tattoo-mania) and influences significantly on personality psychology and mind. Youth addict-audience with searching, delinquent and psychopathy-like radicals, generated drug addictions is one of tattoo configurations habitation key cohorts.

The objective was to study tattoo-addiction prevalence scale and clinical peculiarities for identification in narcology as sustantional addiction new form.

Material for the research were information sources: 1) mass media; 2) Internet-monitoring results; 3) own research of students' youth cohort; 4) testing cohort of chemical and substantional addicted respondents.

Results of the research gave evidence that tattoo-problen in modern human has pivotal constituents of addiction syndrome conforming to ICD-10 clinical criteria: 1) specific tattoo-sensations search («acute intoxication»); 2) stable desire for tattoo-designs persistent refreshing (pathological drive syndrome); 3) (psychological and emotional discomfort sensation on the eve of new tattoo-interventions (withdrawal syndrome psychic equivalent); 4) expansion of dimensions and volumes of tattoo-design and colour scale (tolerance symptom); 5) thirst for tattoo-rage while covering the body with diverse patterns, combined tattoo and piercing (dipsomaniacal state symptom); 6) change of integument localization zones at tattooing (rotation of sensations); 7) tattoo-aggression consequences evidence (skin defects, chronic septic foci, innervation disorders, mental, behavioural disorders). Large-scale involvement, stability and further spread of tattoo-phenomenon: 12% of youth assess situation as «bad» and «awful», the rest 88% – as «excellent», «good», «not bad».

Conclusion. New problem of tattoo-addiction emerged in clinical narcology requires study, identification, working out the program of treatment, prevention and needs considering in new ICD-12 Version.