European Psychiatry S679

EPV0061

Socio-demographic, clinical and therapeutic features of patients treated for schizoaffective disorder using cannabis

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Introduction: Psychotic disorders were formerly associated with cannabis use. It could accelerate the course of the illness and thus, constitutes a severity factor in terms of prognosis.

Objectives: To define the socio-demographic, clinical and therapeutic profiles of patients suffering from schizoaffective disorder (ASD) and who are consuming cannabis.

Methods: A retrospective study of 16 patients diagnosed with ASD, who were hospitalized at the psychiatric department of Tahar Sfar Mahdia's hospital, and whose toxicology test results during the hospitalization came back positive for tetrahydrocannabinol.

Results: 16 patients were gathered, all male, the average age was 26 years. The average age of first hospitalization was 25 years, 41.9% were unemployed. 76.3% of our sample were single. Three quarters of patients were hospitalized without consent. The average hospital stay was 30.33 days. Our patients had required during their stay an average dosage of antipsychotic, equivalent to chlorpromazine, of 752.42 +/-342.79 mg. The average scores of psychometric scales were: BPRS = 55.72 +/-14.11, SAPS = 41.5 +/-14.80 and 42.11 +/-18.88.

Conclusions: Currently, it is recognized that prolonged use of cannabis is an exogenous risk factor. The association between cannabis and schizoaffective disorder may amend the treatment modalities. It requires, thereby, an integrated and simultaneous treatment of schizophrenia and addictive behavior.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

Anxiety Disorders and Somatoform Disorders

EPV0062

Greek teenager patients' desire for information during the perioperative period

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Introduction: Admission to hospital is a stress-inducing experience for children. Informing children helps to reduce anxiety according to their developmental stage.

Objectives: To explore the associations between Greek teenager patients' characteristics and their desired information during the perioperative period.

Methods: Eighty children (52 boys, 28 girls; median age: 12 years old) admitted for surgery into a large Greek paediatric hospital self-completed a 40-item questionnaire on Children's Desire for (perioperative) Information (CDI). The respondents' desire for perioperative information was calculated by summing responses ('I really have to know' plus 'I might want to know') to all 40 items. Ethical issues were addressed. We used multiple linear regression to explain the relationship between participants' characteristics (demographic, attitudes, coping strategies) and their desire for information when facing surgery. A p value of less than 0.05 was considered statistically highly significant. SPSS 21.0 was used for statistical analysis.

Results: The 40/80 (50%) Greek teenager patients admitted for surgery had a CDI score more than 33 out of 40 score. Their desired perioperative information was positively associated with their fear of surgery [β =0.59; 95%CI:0.10-1.08; t=2.39; p=0.020] as well as their being raised in a single-parent household [β =3.9; 95%CI:0.13-7.65; t=2.06; p=0.043]. Their desire for perioperative information was negatively associated with their missing friend support network [β =-1.10; 95%CI: (-2.12)-(-0.08); t=-2.16; p=0.034]. The revealed statistically significant associations explained almost 30% (R-square=0.29) of Greek teenager patient desire to be informed perioperatively.

Conclusions: The high CDI score of Greek teenagers facing surgery in paediatric hospitals implies that they have a proven right for perioperative information. Identification of what influences the perioperative information desired by teenager patients would play a vital role in planning effective perioperative intervention programmes.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0063

Comorbid anxiety has schizophrenia diagnosis and management modality

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Introduction: Schizophrenia is a chronic psychiatric disorder with disorganization progressive and important affecting several spheres: thought, affectivity, cognition and social life of the subject. It is a serious mental disorder with a prevalence of nearly 1%.

Men would present more premorbid difficulties, but the overall prevalence of symptoms of schizophrenia is similar in both sexes. When it comes to comorbidity, men and women are vulnerable to somewhat different health issues.

Anxiety symptoms are one of the main symptoms in patients with schizophrenia, but the effect of anxiety symptoms on patients is easily overlooked.

About 40% have persistent anxiety symptoms in patients with schizophrenia, and whether they are accompanied depressive symptoms, the symptoms may have a greater impact on the patients. We need to help patients avoid suicide when the symptoms depression appear.

Hallucinations auditory, anxiety symptoms and depressive symptoms may exist simultaneously in patients with schizophrenia. Most studies focus on studying the relationship between auditory hallucinatory symptoms and depressive symptoms in patients with