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COMORBIDITY OF ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION IN PATIENTS TREATED FOR ALCOHOL PROBLEMS IN MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

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Introduction: alcoholism is a very common psychiatric problem, with a high morbidity and mortality. Psychiatric diagnoses that most often are associated with alcohol-related disorders include substance abuse, antisocial personality disorder, affective disorders, anxiety and sleep disorders.

Objectives: Our goal is to estimate the prevalence of anxiety and depressive symptoms in a population of patients in our mental health center.

Methods: to analyze data from a sample of 35 patients treated in mental health centers that meet diagnostic criteria for alcohol dependence according to DSM IV-TR. the study enrollment period was 6 months from January to June 2009. study design is observational, descriptive and transversal. The information was collected by clinical interview.

Results: comparison with normative samples reflects that the alcoholics of the sample present more psychopathological symptoms than the normal population, but less than the psychiatric population. Furthermore, the severity of the alcoholism is related with the biggest presence and intensity of comorbidity.

the prevalence of depressive symptoms was 75% and anxious symptoms 65%, with variations in distribution by gender.

Conclusions: the prevalence of anxiety and depression measurement in the population to study is greater than in general population. there is needed further research that allow extending the results obtained in this present study.