

PW01-104 - **FACTORS ASSOCIATED TO USE OF AMBULATORY PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AMONG PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA IN SPAIN. CASE REGISTER STUDY: RESMA**

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Objective: To identify factors associated with visits by patients with schizophrenia and related disorders to community mental health services, under the Mental Health Department of Carlos Haya Hospital in Malaga, Spain.

Methods: We undertook a cross-sectional study. Data on demographic and clinical factors and service use were obtained from the public mental health services database and centralized in the "Malaga Schizophrenia Case Register (RESMA)". The outcome measure, defined as the total number of outpatient consultations during one year, was analyzed by multilevel multivariate linear regression.

Results: The analysis included 1097 patients with diagnoses of schizophrenia and related disorders (F20-F29, ICD-10). The adjusted model explained 46.35% of the variance. Patients who contacted both types of professional (nurses and psychiatrists) had a higher number of visits compared to patients who only contacted a psychiatrist ($p < 0.001$), and the individual psychiatrist attending the patients was also associated with the number of visits ($p < 0.001$). Clinical variables, such as a higher global level of severity ($p < 0.001$), a diagnosis of a persistent delusion disorder and having an inpatient episode ($p < 0.001$), were also associated with a higher number of visits. Patients who were receiving welfare benefits or who had no formal education or were illiterate had a higher number of visits. Patients living alone, living outside the study area and living in more rural municipalities was associated with fewer ambulatory contacts.

Conclusion: Among all variables, the role of psychiatrists and nurses in organized outpatient settings present the strongest association with the number of visits by similar patients.