
PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS OF ACTIVITY OF HEALTH CARE SEEKING BEHAVIOR IN PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM AFFECTIVE AND NEUROTIC DISORDERS

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Introduction: patients suffering from psychic disorders are characterized with postponed health-seeking. The **aim** of this study was to find out factors affecting the activity of health care seeking behavior (HCSB). **Material:** 200 inpatients took part the study. Most of them were female (74%). Mean age was 44,6±13,5. Among patients 29% suffered from affective disorders, 71% – from neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders. Patients were divided into 2 groups with active - aHCSB (n=99) and passive - pHCSB (n=100). **Methods:** Coping-strategies (Lazarus) test, personality test and attitude towards disease test were used. **Results:** Higher degree of combination of moderate seeking of social support coping and moderate planning of problem-solving coping was present in aHCSB compared with pHCSB group (57% Vs 35%, p=0,001). Patients with pHCSB compared with aHCSB were characterized with higher degree of mild seeking of social support coping and mild planning of problem-solving coping (8% Vs 2%, p=0,049). Mild anxiety traits were more common in patients with aHCSB than pHCSB (31% Vs 19%, p=0,041). In contrast severe anxiety traits were more common in patients with pHCSB than aHCSB (15% Vs 6%, p=0,042). Sensitive type of disease attitude resulted in pHCSB (30% compared with 11% in aHCSB group, p=0,012). Hypochondriac type of disease attitude was more common in aHCSB (21% Vs 11% in pHCSB, p=0,047). **Conclusions:** health care seeking behavior is affected with complex of psychological factors. Knowing of these factors can be used in prevention of passive health care seeking behavior.