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This article describes the ethnotherapeutic approach in psychosocial assistance to adolescents of 14–18 years who had left Chechnya and lived in the refugee camps in neighbour Ingushetia during wartime 1999–2004. The group ethnotherapy based on the Chechen customs, traditions, myths and symbols was used.

In traditional Chechen family children grow in the atmosphere of values where norms of behavior, cultural traditions and customs are developed. Being in hard and unusual conditions of refugee camps, the part of adolescents had problems with adaptation and refused from habitual norms of cultural traditions and customs. As a result they lost their identity, had a mental health problems and deviating forms of behaviour. On the other hand, many adolescents felt guilty that they were in safety while people back at home were suffering from war hardships.

During the ethnotherapeutic sessions different life situations in a context of the Chechen norms of traditions and customs were discussed as well as examples from a life of mythical and real Chechen heroes of the past and how could they cope with difficult life situations they faced. Well-known Chechen actors, writers, scientists were invited to the therapeutic sessions, which life situations showed to adolescents how it needed to work and served to the own people.

Using the ethnotherapeutic approach returns adolescents in habitual system of values, raises their self-estimation and improves adaptation on a new place.

P189

The quality of life of the patients who underwent surgical treatment on oncological pathology of thyroid gland

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Backgrounds and aims: We examined 56 patients, who were operated on oncological pathology of thyroid (operation was performed from 1 to 10 years ago). The patients took the course of radioiodine therapy and obtained life-time substitutional therapy with L-thyroxine.

Methods: To assess the quality of life during the after operation period we used the Russian language version of the questionnaire SF 36 (Medical Outcomes Study Short Form) (Ware J.E., 1993).

Results: The quality of life in case of cancer of thyroid gland, as compared to the sample group, appeared to be significantly decreased in all the scales of the questionnaire SF-36. With reliability of $P < 0.05$, as compared to the sample group, the following indices decreased: physical functioning (69,1±2,8 и 92,1±2,4); the role of physical problems in the restriction of vital activity (22,3±4,0 и 70,2±6,8); social functioning (42,0±1,6 и 52,8±2,3); the role of emotional problems in the restriction of vital activity (19,6±5,4 и 73,1±8,9).

Conclusions: These data indicate to the prolonged effect of the psychotraumatic experience and the changes of subjective perception of one's social status. The data obtained show the significant influence of psychological aspects of the perception of the case of cancer of thyroid gland on the level of subjective assessment of vital activity and, as a result, social adaptation.

P190

Type of trauma in posttraumatic stress disorder female patients

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Gender-based perspective is not systematically included across trauma studies and deeper insight into women's response to trauma is required. We explored how the type of trauma (military vs. civilian) is related to clinical characteristics of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) female patients.

Out of 55 PTSD patients included in the study, 34 were military trauma victims (combat experience, witnessing family members being killed) and 21 experienced civilian trauma (rape, robbery, traffic accident). All patients were hospitalized at the Zagreb University Hospital. Data were gathered retrospectively from the medical charts.

Regardless to the type of trauma, examination of clinical characteristics indicate high rate of comorbid psychiatric disorders among PTSD patients with major depressive disorder being the most prominent one; others are personality disorder, anorexia nervosa and somatoform disorder. We found no significant inter-group differences in PTSD symptoms according to the DSM-IV criteria. Most pronounced PTSD symptoms in both groups were hyperarousal and social avoidance symptoms. Late first contact with psychiatrist was found to be a risk factor for PTSD diagnosis among the military group. Those patients were more likely to present first with somatic symptoms such as arterial hypertension, rheumatic pain and gastritis.

Study results suggest that both military and civilian traumas left polymorphous psychological consequences on the mental health of the victims. There is a need for sensitive and coordinated care for traumatized people in order to recognize psychological symptoms and provide optimal psychiatric interventions.

P191

Prison psychosis or simulation: a case report

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The imprisonment is able to accelerate the declaration of some psychiatric problems until this latent or balanced.

The prison psychosis can be observed among new prisoners, and is charged to the conditions of imprisonment, and the difficulties of adaptations of the prisoner with his new medium.

The concept of prison psychosis is a much discussed concept whose limits with the other psychoses are very vague and thus posing a problem of diagnosis and pathogenesis, however one on simulation remains possible in front of the obviousness of the secondary benefit.

In this work, we will try to discuss, through a clinical observation, the nosographic place of this clinical entity.

P192

Indexes of alexithymia and psychopathology in patients with type II diabetes.

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Background and aims: Investigating the indexes of alexithymia and psychopathology, as well as their relation to each other, in patients with type II diabetes.