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PHYSICIAN ATTITUDES OF COUNTY PRIMORSKO- GORANSKA REFERING THE PATIENT SUFFERING FROM PTSD AFTER THE WAR IN CROATIA

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Research background: Attitudes of individuals, especially experts, can affect the decision of patients to seek help and to cooperate in the therapeutic process. It is believed that better understanding and knowledge about the disorder leads to more positive attitudes towards patients, especially when it comes to mental disorders.

Objective: To examine the attitudes of general practitioners and psychiatrists, towards to veteran participants of the War in Croatia suffering from PTSD because those physicians are the two specialties most often in contact with these patients

Method: A sample of 30 primary care physicians and 30 psychiatrists in County Primorsko goranska completed a general demographic questionnaire and AMIQ questionnaire (Corigann 2002). Custom AMIQ questionnaire consists of 20 claims (paragraph), which are ranked on a scale of 1-9, and are grouped into two subscales "personal responsibility for illness," and "the danger of disease."

Results: There are no statistically significant differences in sub scales regard to specialization, gender and physician's place of employment.

Conclusion: These results suggest that the formation of physicians' attitudes does not affect only the knowledge of disorder, but more different personal and enviromental factors may have the impact.