

relevant behavioral problems did not show differences between groups. Given the inconsistent research findings across studies, the longitudinal research and outcome effect studies could help determine whether there is a causal relationship between psychopathology and enuresis.

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Revolving door and human resources in a community mental health system

G. Pardo-Castillo¹, A. Fontalba-Navas², D. Gutierrez-Castillo², F. Del Ojo-Garcia², E. Avanesi-Molina², A. Higuera-Aranda³, J.L. Martinez-Gonzalez², M.I. Rodriguez-Idigoras², J.M. Pena-Andreu⁴. ¹Servicio de Psiquiatria, Hospital Virgen de Las Nieves, Granada, Spain ²Unidad de Calidad, Delegacion Provincial de Salud, Malaga, Spain ³Departamento de Psiquiatria, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Granada, Granada, Spain ⁴Departamento de Psiquiatria, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Malaga, Malaga, Spain

Background and aims: Andalusia is the most highly populated (7,849,799 hab.) region of the Spanish State. It has all the sanitary domains under its own Health Service (Consejería de Salud), and it has undertaken a deep reorganization of the psychiatric services, establishing a new model based on the mental health communitarian alternative that is already completely implanted. Rates of readmission are a method to assess the quality of care and an important tool in the planning of services of mental health.

The aim of this study is to establish if readmission rates are influenced by Human Resources in Psychiatric Community Devices.

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Method: MBDS is a system of hospital register that gathers all the discharges produced in the andalusian hospitals. It is totally trustworthy from 1995, and we have processed data up to 2004.

Our Data Set register 101234 hospital admissions of psychiatric patients.

Results: The number of admissions from patients who enter three times or more throughout the year has been: 22.66%(1995); 24.66%(1996); 31.01%(1997); 30.72%(1998); 34.07%(1999); 35.35%(2000); 36.92%(2001); 32.93%(2002); 31.20%(2003) and 29.36%(2004).

On the other hand, it has been an increase in Mental Health Human Resources Rates: 24.23-100.000 inhab-(1998); 24.19 (1999); 26.01(2000); 28.04(2001); 29.83(2002); 29.16(2003); 29.34(2004) and 29.90(2005).

Conclusion: Increasing human resources in psychiatric community devices do not change revolving-door rates in general hospital acute psychiatric units in a community mental health system.

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Suicide in south Tyrol

G. Giupponi¹, S. Perin¹, R. Pycha². ¹Centro di Salute Mentale, Hospital of Bolzano, Bolzano, Italy ²Department of Psychiatry, Hospital of Bolzano, Bolzano, Italy

Preface: South Tyrol is a province of Italy bordering on Austria with 500.000 inhabitants, comprising three different ethnic-linguistic groups (German, Italian and Ladin) whose suicide rate is two times higher than the Italian average.

Goal of the research: The following ecological research tries analyse the existence of some risk factors that differentiate South Tyrol from the rest of Italy explaining the greater number of suicides.

Method: Between 1999 and 2006 almost 300 suicide cases were gathered and analysed with the descriptive interference method. The records have been elaborated considering different variables.

Results: Among the results two records are of particular interest:

1. A significantly higher risk of suicide in the German speaking population compared to the Italian one (the records of the Ladin speaking population are not significant).
2. There is a higher suicidal tendency in the rural areas compared to the urban ones.

Conclusions: Such as in all epidemiological descriptive surveys there is no causal explanation for the instance that the German speaking group is characterized by a suicide risk which is 1,3 times higher than the Italian speaking group. It remains unanswered if the high number of suicide in the German speaking population is due to a selection variable; for example that the areas populated by the latter (mainly rural areas) present another variable (high alcoholism, different familiar cohesion, etc.) than the mother language. In this case the affiliation to a linguistic group would be considered a confusing variable among other causal factors.

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Actual treatment for elderly patients with depression

J.L. Hernandez Fleta, M.E. Terres Ruiz, T. Sanchez-Araña Moreno, A. Salesansky Davidovsky, E. Zerek Benitez, A. Dominguez Santana. *Unidad de Salud Mental de Canalejas, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain*

As the patient gets older, the medical treatment for the depression gets more and more complicated as the number of possible interactions between these drugs increases.

An average elderly person of 65 years takes around 8 pills a day, and whenever they have 2 or more pills simultaneously the possibility of creating an adverse reaction increases again enormously. Generally, medical interactions depend on the dose. A good advice would be "start slowly and continue slowly" in order to obtain the better result taking the shortest possible dose.

It is very important to reduce the amount of drugs, to adjust the dose and to choose the right medicine in order to avoid adverse reactions. We should also take into account the documented medical interactions concerning the wide variety of antidepressants and specific medicines of each type.

Each depression requires an individualized treatment, adjusted to each case, especially those of elderly patients. There is not yet a medicine effective for all the cases. Sometimes people are given a treatment which has already been proved and that may show different results, as the individual response depends on a lot of factors.

We introduce here the principal characteristics, of the main antidepressants used nowadays for elderly patients, as well as their medical interactions, and their pros and cons.

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Sudden infant death syndrome and psychiatric disorders

L.M. Howard, G. Kirkwood. *Health Services Research Department, Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College London, London, United Kingdom*

Background and aims: Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the main cause of infant death in the first year of life. SIDS has been