EPP0683

The characteristics of patients requiring readmission to an Australian forensic psychiatric intensive care unit

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Introduction: Psychiatric intensive care units (or PICU’s) emerged to manage high acuity patients outside the justice system. Studies have sought to better understand characteristics of those admitted to forensic or civilian PICU’s. Few, in contrast, have explored the frequency and contributors to readmission. The following study was conducted on Apsley unit, a Forensic PICU based in Melbourne, Australia, and seeks to understand the differences which would allow early identification of patients likely to require readmission and the provision of targeted interventions.

Objectives: Examine rates of and contributors to forensic PICU readmission over a 6-month period.

Methods: A retrospective audit was conducted to collect clinical, problem behaviour (and strategies to manage), forensic history and demographic information for consecutively admitted patients to an 8-bed forensic PICU between March-September 2019.

Results: Data analysis is ongoing. Interim analysis found that 96 patients were admitted during the 6-month study period: 74 (77.1%) had a single admission; 22 (22.9%) required readmission. Almost all were admitted from prison (96.9%), most had a psychosis diagnosis (80.2%) and substance abuse history (96.9%), and many had a personality disorder (24.0%) and history of adolescent antisocial behaviour (46.5%). Patients requiring readmission were significantly more likely to have been previously under compulsory mental health treatment (95.5% vs 75.3%, p=.039) and have a Positive Behaviour Support Plan developed during admission (85.7% vs 54.8%, p=.010).

Conclusions: Interim analysis highlighted the multicomplexity for forensic PICU patients alongside the occurrence of problem behaviour during admission and history of compulsory treatment as indicators of increased risk for re-admission.

Keywords: Forensic; psychiatry; PICU

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Probation of the offender with high functioning autistic traits and comorbidity. A case study.

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Introduction: When the Criminal Court Judge applies probation, the offender is entrusted to social assistants for the necessary observation, treatment and support. This case study examines the probation of a young man with high-functioning autistic traits, personality disorder and legal/illegal substance abuse. This young man, who arrived only in adulthood to a diagnosis of autistic traits, is aware only that is non-neurotypical. He does not recognize that he needs treatment for personality disorder, alcohol, substance and drug abuse. He faces a sentence of more than three years in prison but the Judge suspends the criminal trial.

Objectives: Clarify the relationship between high functioning autistic traits, comorbidity with personality disorder and drugs/substance abuse, and crimes committed; also describe the orientation of the Judge and what difficulties arise during the probation.

Methods: Examination of the criminal file and medical documents of the offender, known by social and health services.

Results: The offender correlates the crimes and its frailty with autism and not with antisocial behaviours to gain economic benefits from drug dealing.

Conclusions: The deficit in the social communication and lack of empathy for child victims, for example, limits the effectiveness of probation. The probation, for a young with high-functioning autistic traits and comorbidity, does not seem to give satisfactory results in terms of rehabilitation and social integration, nor does it produce the extinction of crime.

Keywords: forensic psychiatry; autism; offender

EPP0685

Care & custody: E-sport and patient-professional power-relations in forensic psychiatry. A qualitative study

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Introduction: Recovery orientated care emphasizes equality in relations. Forensic psychiatric professionals need to engage in care-relationships with patients in ways where power is symmetrically distributed among them. However, professionals also need to focus on security at the ward. This promotes patient-professional power-relations that are asymmetrically skewed towards professionals. New practical ways of balancing between the power-relations defined by a care and custody dichotomy in forensic care need to be developed and studied to guide clinical practice.

Objectives: To study how power-relations are articulated between patient-professional within a social gaming activity (E – sport) in a Danish medium secure forensic psychiatric ward.

Methods: Three months of observational data, collected via anthropological fieldwork Interviews with 3 professionals and 6 patients Data was analyzed using sociologist Pierre Bourdieu’s notions of field, capital and power

https://doi.org/10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.1009 Published online by Cambridge University Press