

Title :

Alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis use in patients with borderline personality disorders admitted in an emergency department.

B.Angerville (1,2,3) A. Dervaux (1,2,3)

1. EPS Barthélémy Durand Etampes 91150 (Essonne), France
2. Laboratoire de recherche PSYCHOMADD, Centre Hospitalier Paul Brousse, Villejuif 94800
3. Université Paris Saclay, Faculté de médecine Centre Hospitalier Kremlin-Bicêtre 94270.

Auteur correspondant : Dr Angerville Bernard

Background: Studies investigating clinical characteristics of borderline personality disorders in the general hospitals, within consultation-liaison practice, are scarce. The objective of the present study was to assess the clinical characteristics of a group of patients with borderline personality disorders admitted in an emergency department.

Methods: A group of patients fulfilling ICD-10 criteria of borderline personality disorders (n=51) and consecutively admitted in an emergency department was compared to a group of control patients without personality disorders (n=51), matched on age (respectively mean age: 33.4, SD=12.2 vs 33.7 years old SD=12.2, NS) and gender (female patients: n=33, 65% in both groups).

Results: The rate of alcohol daily use was higher in the group of patients with borderline personality disorders than in the group of controls (60% vs 33%, p=0.007). There was no significant difference between the two groups regarding the rates of patients admitted for alcohol intoxication (57% vs 39%, NS) or the rate of patients using tobacco on a daily basis (81% vs 67%, NS) or cannabis (28% vs 24%, NS). There was no significant difference between the two groups regarding mean number of cigarettes/day (19.5±12.7 vs 20.4±13.5, p=0.38), mean number of daily alcohol intake (123.3±99.6 vs 90.6±60.4 g/day, p=0.42), mean number of joints of cannabis/day (4.1±3.6 vs 5.6±5.1, p=0.80). Only two patients received pharmacological treatments for alcohol cessation, namely acamprosate and baclofen. One patient received nicotine replacement therapy for smoking cessation.

Conclusions: Alcohol tobacco and cannabis daily use were frequent in patients with borderline personality disorders admitted in an emergency department, but not significantly compared to a control group. In contrast, the rate of patients receiving treatments for alcohol or nicotine use disorders were very low. Substance use disorders treatments should be improved for these patients.

Liens d'intérêt : les auteurs déclarent n'avoir aucun conflit d'intérêt et que travail présenté n'a aucun lien avec l'industrie pharmaceutique, du tabac, de l'alcool, de la cigarette électronique et avec les compagnies de jeux.