

Methods: We carried out a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study during six months including patients hospitalized in the psychiatric department at the University Hospital of Mahdia. The data was collected using a 47-item pre-established questionnaire. The assessment of general psychopathology was carried out using the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) and that of dangerousness using the Historical Clinical Risk-20 scale (HCR-20).

Results: We have collected 143 patients. The average age was 35 years. The majority of patients were single (70.6%). More than half of the population had addictive behaviors (60.1%). Personal psychiatric and criminal histories were present in 81.1% and 11.9% of cases respectively. More than three-quarters of patients (81.8%) were hospitalized without their consent. Hetero-aggressiveness was the main reason for hospitalization (67.8%). The diagnosis was schizophrenia and bipolar disorder type 2 in 21% of cases for each. The evaluation of psychiatric dangerousness by the HCR-20 scale revealed a mean score of 20.6 with an HCR-20 > 20 in 58.7% of cases indicating a high risk of violence. Factors contributing to violent or criminal behavior in psychiatric inpatients were marital status, presence of personal psychiatric history, presence of criminal history and hospitalization modalities.

Conclusions: The results of our study were generally consistent with the data in the literature.

Keywords: dangerousness; factors; psychiatric; inpatients

EPP0694

Psychiatric treatment of mentally ill persons in custody – legal, medical and ethical issues

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Introduction: The most recent legal regulations in the Republic of Croatia govern the process of criminal procedure for persons in pre-trial detention who have a temporary mental disturbance for which psychiatric treatment is needed. The Prison Director is in this case obliged to seek psychiatric treatment for such persons who are then hospitalized in a psychiatric institution instead of a prison hospital or prison that meets the requirements prescribed by law for the accommodation of pre-trial detainees. Forensic departments of the five psychiatric hospitals in Croatia accept mentally incapable persons subject to court order, but not persons in custody, i.e. in pre-trial detention. Pre-trial detention is a measure imposed in the previous proceedings to ensure that the person to whom the measure is imposed is present during the pre-trial stage and the hearing stage, i.e. after the final judgment has been rendered until it becomes final. According to Croatian laws, a person who has been sentenced to pre-trial detention and who has mental disorders is entitled to a range of rights that must be respected, and at the same time, there are strict restrictions in exercising those same rights for the reason of sentencing to pre-trial detention.

Objectives: The article points to several problems that have arisen in practice due to the under-regulation of pre-trial detention measures.

Methods: Perspective, opinion, and commentary article.

Results: Perspective, opinion, and commentary article.

Conclusions: The authors discuss legal, medical, and ethical issues, but also the financial framework of such a process.

Keywords: forensic psychiatry; pre-trial detention; Mental Health Act; hospital mental health services

EPP0695

A descriptive study of fratricide in tunisia

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Introduction: Violence between brothers and / or sisters is one of the most important forms of violence within families. To understand homicides between them, the hypothesis of rivalry has been put forward. But how is it really in reality?

Objectives: To construct both the clinical and medicolegal profile of perpetrators of fratricide and sororicide.

Methods: This is a retrospective study of 12 cases of fratricide, which were examined in the context of criminal psychiatric expertise in the psychiatry department of Hedi Chaker University Hospital in Sfax (Tunisia), between January 2002 and December 2018.

Results: The mean age of offenders was 31.9 years; they were all male. Eight fratricide perpetrators were unmarried and had an irregular occupation. They had a psychiatric follow-up prior to homicide in 5 cases. Previous criminal records were noted in one third of the cases. Three perpetrators of fratricide were using psychoactive substances. History of violence against the victim was presented in 7/12 of cases, and the victim was younger than the perpetrator in 5 cases. Aggression was premeditated in 4 cases. The knife was the most used weapon (11/12). Seven offenders suffered from a major mental illness. The most common diagnosis was schizophrenia (6/12). The experts had concluded that 8 cases were in a state of insanity at the time of the offense.

Conclusions: Our data indicates that fratricides are lack preparation and most often preceded by violence. It seems to be important to do other researches to assess psychopathology and assess risk factors for fratricide.

Keywords: fratricide; violence; perpetrators of fratricide and sororicide

EPP0696

Personality variables among sexual offenders with and without diagnosis of paraphilic disorders

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Introduction: Sexual offenders are classified in terms of the act they have committed, diagnosis of sexual preference disorder (paraphilic disorder), and the potential motives behind the act. The typology that is often used in forensic-sexological practice is the division into preferential and non-preferential perpetrators, i.e. perpetrators showing or not showing a sexual preference disorder.

Objectives: The aim of the study was to assess whether psychosocial and personality variables significantly differ between the group of preferential and non-preferential sexual offenders.

Methods: The study involved 120 persons, including 60 preferential and 60 non-preferential sexual offenders. The participants were presented with selected, standardized psychological tools to personality traits, self-esteem, life satisfaction, capacity to understand emotions, attachment style.

Results: The study involved 120 persons, including 60 preferential and 60 non-preferential sexual offenders. The participants were presented with selected, standardized psychological tools to personality traits, self-esteem, life satisfaction, capacity to understand emotions, attachment style.

Conclusions: Differences between the both study groups and the male standardization sample suggest worse psychosocial functioning of sexual offenders. A critical analysis of the methodological limitations of this study have been presented.

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Keywords: paraphilic disorder; Big Five personality traits

EPP0697

Changes in BMI and blood pressure after implementing a complete smoking ban in a medium secure forensic setting: A study from dundrum hospital dublin

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Introduction: In February 2020, the Central Mental Hospital Dundrum moved to a complete ban on cigarette smoking. Concerns were raised that this might represent a ‘restrictive practice’ and that patients might gain weight or see changes in their blood pressure if they were not permitted to smoke.

Objectives: The aim of the study was to ascertain if there were changes in the blood pressure readings or body mass index of a group of patients in a secure forensic hospital after the implementation of a complete campus-wide smoking ban

Methods: All patients (n=20) working with one medium cluster team were included in the study. Demographic details and data pertaining to legal status, diagnosis and length of stay in the hospital were obtained. BMI, blood pressure and medications were reviewed at the time of introduction of the smoking ban, 1st February 2020 and again 5 months later.

Results: All those included in the study were male. The median age was 35 years, most common diagnosis was schizophrenia and mean length of stay was 4.23 years. 20% of patients were prescribed anti-hypertensives at the time of introduction of the smoking ban. All of the patients on anti-hypertensives were overweight. At follow up there was no increase in BMI noted in the patient group. Two patients had dose reductions in anti-hypertensives, three had discontinuation of bronchodilators.

Conclusions: Introducing a campus wide smoking ban in a secure forensic psychiatric hospital is both clinically positive and practically possible. There was no noted increase in incidents in the hospital during this period.

Keywords: smoking cessation; medium secure; Blood pressure; BMI

EPP0698

Involuntary placement of a mentally ill person in a psychiatric hospital and care institution

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Introduction: In the mental health area, the most problematic issues are the involuntary placement of the mentally ill in closed institutions, both under civil and criminal proceedings, and their involuntary treatment. Despite the international efforts of harmonizing measures, the nature and practice of the services still vary from country to country.

Objectives: To analyse involuntary placement of persons with mental disorders in closed institutions under civil and criminal proceedings, which include both psychiatric hospitals and care institutions.

Methods: Review and analysis of regulations and practice of involuntary placement of a person with a mental disorder in a closed institution in the context of Estonian, Finnish, Russian, and English law, health care and social system.

Results: Estonian, Finnish, Russian, and English law distinguish between criminal and civil proceedings regarding involuntary placement of a mentally ill person in a closed institution. However, specifics of the proceedings are different among the countries, e.g. judicial involvement, and deadlines. Also, the provision of forensic mental health services differ among these countries, e.g. in Estonia offenders and non-offenders are kept separately, whilst in England and Russia patients are not distinguished so strictly.

Conclusions: The distinction between involuntary placement of the mentally ill in criminal and civil proceedings is distinguished primarily for the reason that in one case the risk arising from the person is directly realized by committing an unlawful act and in the other case the risk arising from the person is directed at themselves or is not qualified as an unlawful act.

Keywords: involuntary placement; mental health; psychiatry; mental health legislation

EPP0699

Vexatious litigant vs paranoia querulans: A systematic review

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