

RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS REFERRED TO PSYCHIATRY FROM THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IN A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND AND AIM: This study aimed to evaluate psychiatric consultations requested for patients presenting to the emergency department of Aydın Adnan Menderes University Hospital.

METHODS: (Ethics Committee Approval No:2024/225) Consultation requests 07.11.2023-07.11.2024 were retrospectively reviewed through the hospital's patient record system. Sociodemographic data, whether hospitalization was recommended, the purpose of the recommended hospitalization, the patient's acceptance or refusal of hospitalization and whether the patient required another psychiatric consultation in the emergency department within three months were analyzed.

RESULTS: Psychiatric consultations were requested for 217 male and 326 female patients. Hospitalization was recommended for 367 patients, of whom 237 accepted the recommendation. 52 of the 543 patients presented to the psychiatric outpatient clinic within three months. The mean age of female patients (39.44 ± 16.49) was significantly higher than that of male patients (36.03 ± 13.71) ($p = 0.035$). Hospitalization was recommended for 236 female and 131 male patients ($p = 0.003$), with 169 female and 68

male patients refusing hospitalization ($p < 0.0001$). Overall 330 patients were consulted for suicide attempts, 117 for aggressive behavior, and 96 for other psychiatric reasons. Among the suicide cases, 79.7% refused hospitalization ($p < 0.0001$), while 79.1% of aggression cases ($p = 0.003$) and 61.5% of other cases ($p < 0.0001$) accepted hospitalization. Of the suicide cases, 68.0% of women and 52.4% of men refused hospitalization ($p = 0.006$).

CONCLUSIONS: The findings indicate that a substantial proportion of patients who received psychiatric consultations in the emergency department were recommended for hospitalization, yet many refused admission, particularly female patients and those presenting after a suicide attempt. Patients with suicide attempts exhibited the highest refusal rates compared to those with aggressive behavior or other psychiatric reasons. According to the results of this study, we may suggest that women are more likely than men to decline hospitalization. This high risk groups may need extra support, education, or intervention strategies to encourage them to accept hospitalization when necessary.

Keywords: Emergency, psychiatric, consultations