

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC AND DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA AND RELATED DISORDERS HOSPITALIZED IN THE MALE PSYCHOSIS CLINIC OF A STATE HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND AND AIM: Schizophrenia is a chronic psychotic disorder affecting approximately 1% of the population. This study aims to analyze the sociodemographic and clinical characteristics of individuals diagnosed with schizophrenia and related disorders.

METHODS: A retrospective file review was conducted on 176 inpatients diagnosed with schizophrenia and related disorders at the Psychiatry Clinic of Ankara Etlik City Hospital between January 2023 and June 2024. Clinical data, such as age of onset, disease duration, level of insight, substance use history, comorbid diagnoses, family history, hospitalization duration, medication adherence, and treatment characteristics, were recorded using sociodemographic and clinical evaluation form. Descriptive statistical analyses frequency and percentage for categorical variables and mean and standard deviation for continuous variables. Ethical approval was granted by the Ankara Etlik City Hospital Ethics Committee (Decision Number: AEŞH-BADEK-2024-864, dated 5.09.2024).

RESULTS: The mean age of the patients was 35.19 ± 11.15 years. 39.2% had completed highschool, 78% were single, 74.4% lived with their parents, 65.9% were unemployed.

Clinical characteristics revealed that 80.7% had a diagnosis of schizophrenia, with a mean onset age of 23.95 ± 7.94 years, 68.2% had repeated hospitalizations, 24.4% had a comorbid psychiatric disorder, most commonly personality disorders or alcohol/substance addiction. Voluntary hospitalizations accounted for 54.5% of cases, while 58.5% of patients lacked insight into their illness. Substance use history was reported in 64.2% of cases. The mean duration of current hospitalization was 26.02 ± 15.68 days. Prior poor treatment adherence was noted in 83% of patients. During hospitalization, 80.1% were treated with second-generation antipsychotics, 62.5% received monotherapy, 39.7% were prescribed oral medication, 33.0% received long-acting injections, and 26.7% underwent combined treatment.

CONCLUSIONS: Studies have shown that schizophrenia usually occurs in males in early adulthood and that these individuals experience a more chronic disease progression, social isolation and reduced functionality. This epidemiological data from male patients gathered will contribute to the development of more targeted and effective treatment strategies.

Keywords: Schizophrenia, sociodemographics, clinical features