

A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS, SUBSTANCE USE PROFILES, AND DISCHARGE TREATMENTS OF PATIENTS HOSPITALIZED IN THE AMATEM SERVICE

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BACKGROUND AND AIM: Alcohol and substance use disorder (ASUD) is a chronic, relapsing condition with significant individual and societal consequences. This study examined the clinical characteristics, substance use profiles, and post-discharge treatments of patients treated at an AMATEM.

METHODS: (Ethics Committee Approval must be obtained and the number should be specified). Sociodemographic and medical data of patients hospitalized at Pamukkale University AMATEM between 01.12.2020 and 01.12.2025 were retrospectively reviewed; ethical approval was obtained (No.E-60116787-020-811471).

RESULTS: A total of 632 patients were included; 87.3% were male and 55.2% were single. The mean age was 29.37 ± 9.42 years, with 2.07 ± 1.55 hospitalizations and a hospitalization duration of 16.27 ± 11.55 days. The mean age at onset was 17.65 ± 5.64 years, the duration of use was 11.70 ± 8.29 years, and the longest abstinence period was 10.50 ± 12.84 months. Opioids were most common in current use (56.3%), and cannabis in past use (67.2%). Legal involvement, intravenous use, and a family history of substance use were present in 22%, 26.7%, and 16.9% of patients, respectively. Polysubstance use disorder was the

most common discharge diagnosis (35.9%), followed by opioid (32.1%) and alcohol use disorder (17.2%). Acamprosate was used in 39.7% of patients with alcohol use disorder, while the mean daily buprenorphine/naloxone dose at discharge was 10.1 mg for opioid use disorder. 31% of patients (n=196) were discharged before completing treatment; most refused treatment (85.7%). Age at onset was negatively correlated with hospitalizations and positively with longest abstinence ($p < 0.001$). Patients in the opioid group were younger, had earlier onset, and more frequent hospitalizations than other ASUD patients. Within the opioid group, those with a history of IV use had more hospitalizations, earlier onset, and longer use duration. Alcohol patients were older, had later onset and longer use duration; they had fewer hospitalizations, longer stays, and shorter longest abstinence.

CONCLUSIONS: In this study, the clinical and demographic characteristics of AMATEM patients were evaluated, demonstrating distinct clinical profiles of alcohol and opioid use disorders; consideration of real-world data in treatment planning is recommended.

Keywords: Addiction, alcohol, amatem, substance