

Suicide in Personality Disorders with Substance Use Disorders comorbid

Roser Martinez Riera, Gerard Mateu Codina, Laura Diaz Digon, Claudio Castillo Buenaventura, Joan Roig Llesuy, Gabriel Vallecillo Sanchez, Laura Morro Fernandez, Marta Torrens Melich
Dual Diagnosis Unit. Neuroscience and Addiction Institute (INAD). Centre Fòrum-Hospital del Mar, Parc de Salut Mar. Barcelona (Spain)

Introduction

Substance use is a risk factor for suicide and suicide attempts. Among drug users, lifetime prevalence of suicide ranges between 15% and 20%. Some studies of substance users generally indicate that suicide is more common in males, individuals who have a greater severity of alcohol use, higher levels of depression, and a history of aggression or other interpersonal conflicts¹. In addition, history of suicide attempts has been related with higher rates of drug dependency, impulsivity and borderline personality disorder^{2,3}.

Objectives

To analyze the differences between patients admitted for suicidal ideation and those who join for other reasons, within the group of patients with Personality Disorders and Substance Use Disorders (SUD) comorbid admitted to a brief dual diagnosis unit.

Method

Total of patients admitted consecutively to our dual pathology unit between September 2007 and December 2011 and who met DSM-IV criteria for diagnosis of Personality Disorder and comorbid SUD were included. Data on demographic, family, and clinical factors were collected. Statistical analysis of data was performed using SPSS version 18

Results

- From the whole sample (N=250), age 38.58±8.8, most of them (64.4%) were male, 71.2% admitted from emergency room and the mean length of stay was 13.9±13.48. The main drug of abuse was first alcohol (47%), second cocaine (26.9%) and third cannabis (10%).
- We found some significant differences between both groups, non-suicidal ideation (N=163; 65.2) and suicidal ideation (N=87; 34.8) (Table 1). In Figure 1 and Figure 2, you can notice some differences related to comorbid diagnosis non-SUD in Axis I and comorbid SUD, respectively. Non-suicidal ideation group had higher prevalence of diagnosis of Antisocial Personality Disorder (22.1% vs 6.9%; p=0.002).

Table 1. Comparative data between both Suicidal Ideation group and Non-Suicidal Ideation group of Personality Disorders

	Suicidal Ideation N=87	Non-Suicidal Ideation N=163	P
Sociodemographic data			
Age, years (mean, SD)	38.5±8.5	38.7±8.9	NS
Sex, %			
Female	47.1%	29.4%	0.008**
Marital status, %			
Non Married	47.1%	57.4%	NS
Level of education, %			
No Education	0,0%	0,0%	0.065*
No High school diploma	37.2%	50.7%	
High school diploma or college	62.8%	49.3%	
Employment, %			
Unemployed	88.1%	82,0%	NS
Clinical data			
Serologies			
HIV positive	17.2%	10.4%	NS
HCV positive	34.5%	25.2%	NS
HBV positive	23,0%	14.1%	NS
Parental substance abuse background	71.2%	58.3%	NS
Parental mental illness background	48.1%	53.6%	NS
Previous history of suicide attempts	91.2%	64,0%	<0.001**
Previous history of physical aggression	75.3%	58,0%	0.038**
Taking treatment regularly during 6 months previous to hospital admission	32.4%	18.9%	0.038**
Patients admitted involuntarily	9.2%	35.6%	<0.001**
Pharmacological treatment at the time of discharge			
Antidepressants	64.4%	41.7%	0.001**
Antipsychotics	58.6%	70.6%	0.068*
Benzodiazepines	39.1%	41.7%	NS
Antiepileptic	65.5%	58.9%	NS
Methylphenidate	0	1.2	NS
Anticraving	14.9%	12.3%	NS
Antiparkinsonian	2.3%	7.4%	NS
Others	0,0%	3.7%	NS

*p<0.8>0.5; a trend to differences. **P<0.05; significant differences.

Figure 1. Comparative data on comorbid diagnoses on Axis I

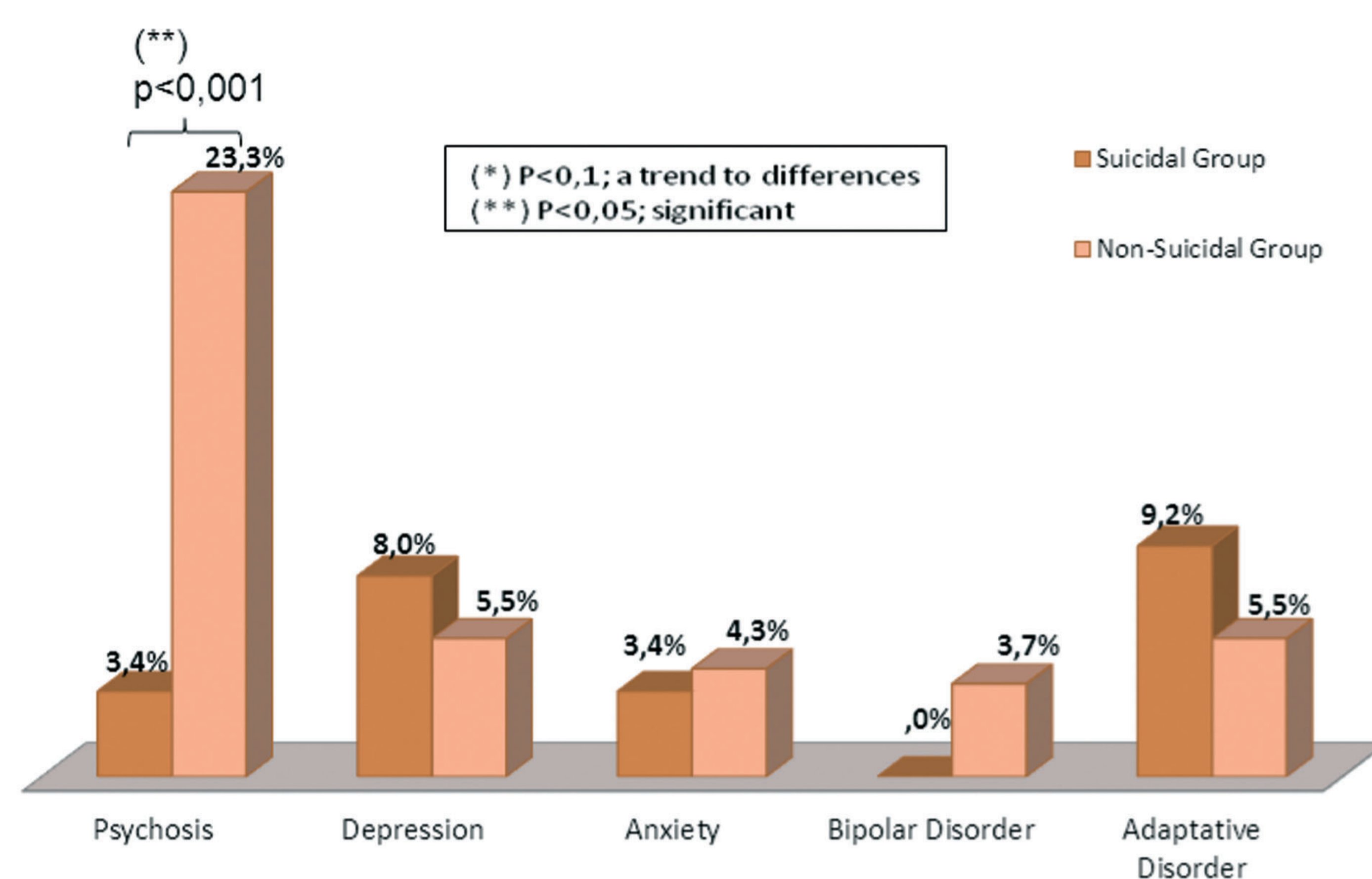
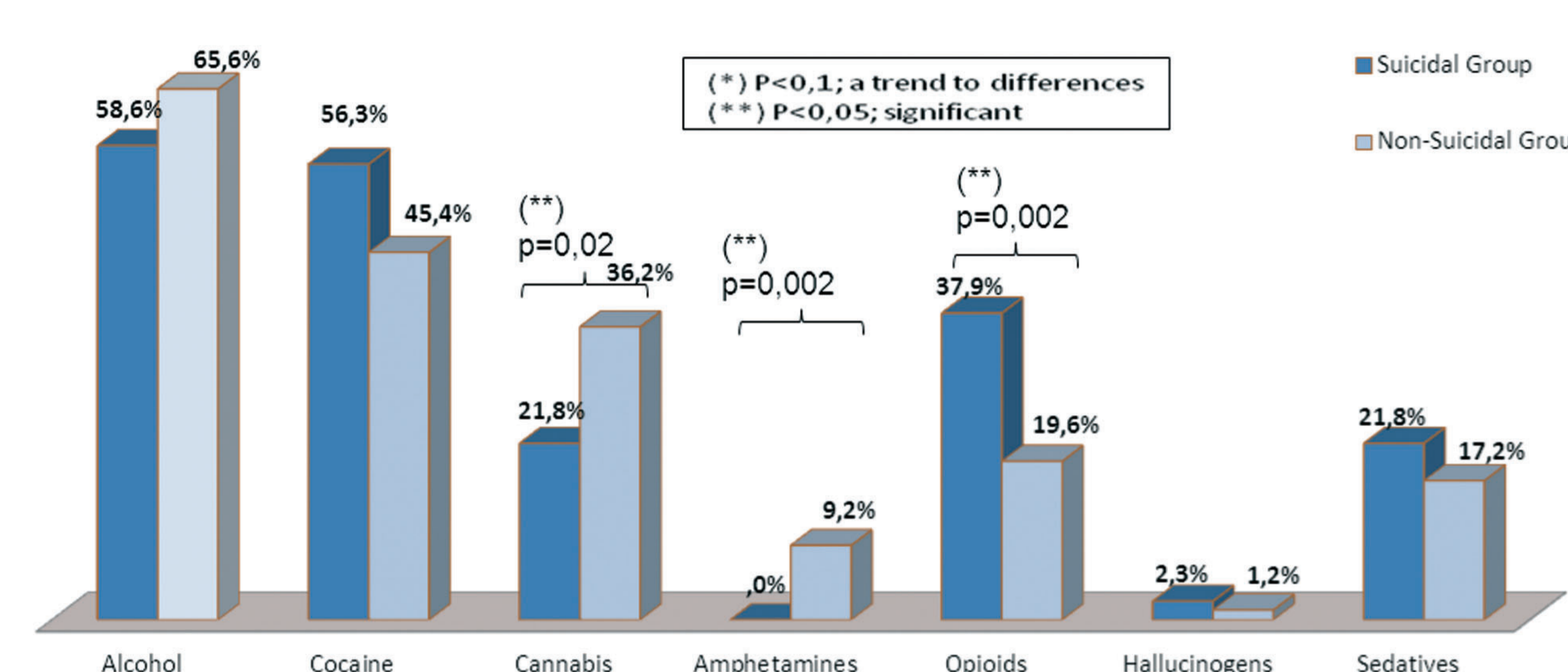


Figure 2. Comparative data on comorbid diagnoses on Substance Use



Conclusions

With the results of our study, we can conclude that in personality disorders with comorbid Substance Use, there are factors associated with having or not suicidal ideation as sex, history of previous suicide attempts or aggressive behavior, the type of Substance Use and comorbidity with other axis I. These data are significant for the therapeutic approach.

References

- Amy S.B. Bohnert, Kathryn Roeder, Mark A. Ilgen, 2010. Unintentional overdose and suicide among substance users: A review of overlap and risk factors. Drug and Alcohol Dependence 110, 183-192.
- Elizabeth Maloney, Louisa Degenhardt, Shane Darke, Elliot C. Nelson, 2009. Impulsivity and borderline personality as risk factors for suicide attempts among opioid-dependent individuals. Psychiatry Research 169, 16-21.
- Cuneyt Evren, Ozgul C?nar, Bilge Evren, Selime Celik, 2011. History of suicide attempt in male substance-dependent inpatients and relationship to borderline personality features, anger, hostility and aggression. Psychiatry Research 190, 126-131.