

Are there differences between patients admitted into a dual diagnosis unit due to suicide attempt/ideation and patients admitted due to other causes?

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Introduction

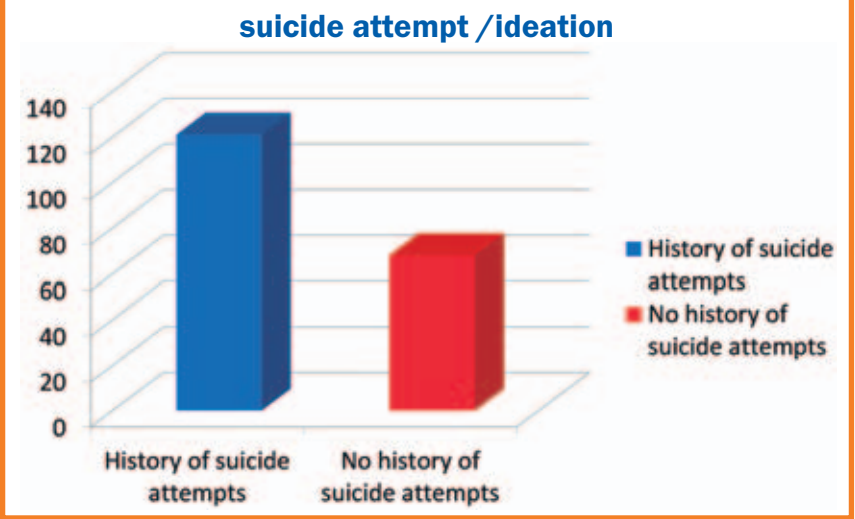
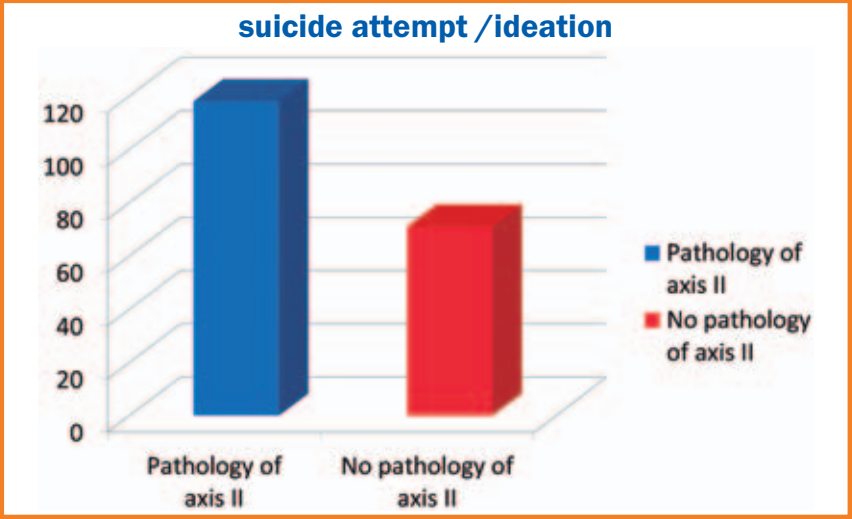
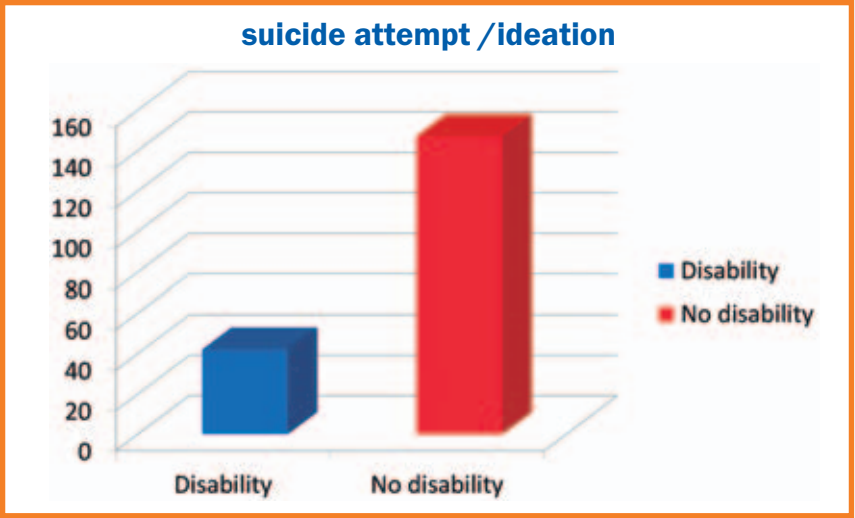
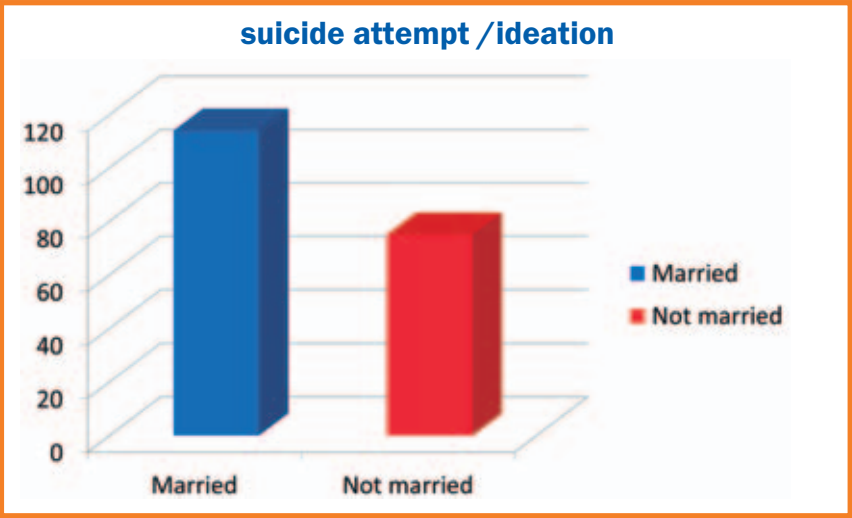
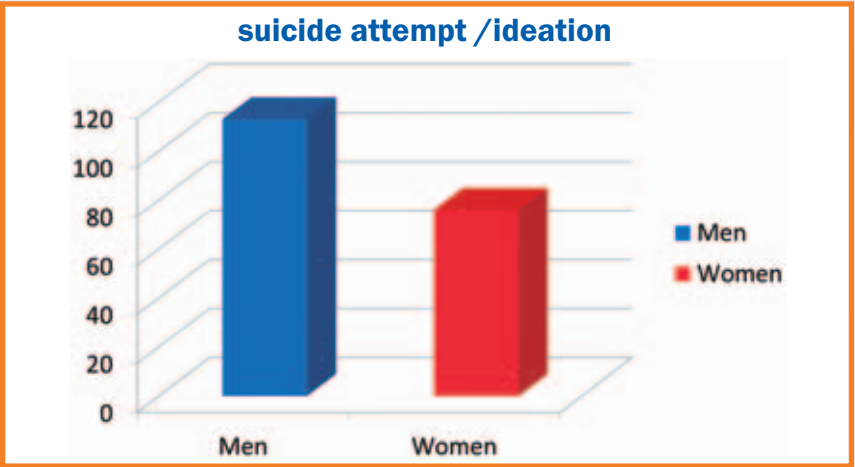
The probability of suicide in patients with substance use disorders is three to four times higher than in general population (1) (2).
The aim of this study is to describe the different characteristics between subjects with severe mental illness and co-morbid substance use disorders whether the reason of admission on a dual diagnosis unit was suicide attempt/ideation or not.

Methods

We assessed all patients admitted into a dual diagnosis unit along three years by collecting sociodemographic and clinical data. We grouped them into two categories based on whether they were admitted due to suicide ideation/attempt or not. Comparisons between groups were carried out using chi-square test for categorical variables and T-test for continuous variables. Subsequently a multivariate analysis was performed using logistic regression.

Results

There were 975 patients, of whom 71.7% were men. The mean age was 39.24 years (17-71). In 189 cases (19.4%), the reason of admission was suicide attempt /ideation. A significant relationship was found between suicide ideation/attempt and the following variables: female sex, married status, disability, pathology of axis I and II, and history of suicide attempts. In the logistic regression, a significant relationship was maintained with the variables female sex, married status, disability, pathology of axis II and history of suicide attempts.



Conclusions

We found significant differences between the patients admitted due to suicide ideation/attempt and patients admitted due to other causes. These findings can help us to improve the treatment of those patients in the future.