

DETERMINANTS OF COVID-19 VACCINATION STATUS IN INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS: INSIGHTS FROM A PROBATION CLINIC IN TURKEY

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BACKGROUND AND AIM: People with substance use disorder (SUD) are at high risk of harms from COVID-19 infection and vaccine hesitancy is common in this population. Studies have identified multilevel barriers to COVID-19 vaccination among SUD patients, including lack of knowledge, low perceived risk for COVID-19, institutional mistrust, addiction-related stigma, and other structural barriers to healthcare access and utilization. We aimed to determine the factors affecting the COVID-19 vaccination status in individuals with substance use disorder in a probation outpatient clinic.

METHODS: Vaccination and COVID-19 related health status of 177 patients were accessed via the digital health record system of Ministry of Health of Turkey. Symptom Checklist (SCL-90) paranoid ideation (PAR) dimension and Oxford COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence and Complacency Scale were applied to the participants. High scores from this scale indicates lower trust towards vaccines. hospital (Ethics number: 2024/235, Ethics date: 31.01.2024).

RESULTS: Of the participants, 92.1% (n=163) were male and 58.2% (n=103) were single, 67.2% (n=119) were employed and 58.8% (n=104) had health insurance. The mean vaccination number was 1.68±1.24 and 27.7% remained unvaccinated. While 24.3% (n=43) of the participants have never had a COVID-19 test, 22.6% (n=40) have had positive test results at least one time. There was no association between sociodemographic data, COVID-19 history and vaccination status ($p>0.05$). There was no correlation between paranoid features and vaccination status ($p>0.05$). The Oxford Vaccine Confidence Scale score negatively predicted vaccination status ($B = -0.053$, $p < 0.001$), indicating that higher levels of vaccine confidence are associated with a decreased likelihood of being vaccinated. For every one-point increase in the Oxford scale, the odds of being vaccinated decrease by a factor of 0.948 (Nagelkerke R Square of 0.262)

CONCLUSIONS: Our results show that low confidence towards vaccines affects vaccination rates. Strategies should be developed to increase SUD patients' confidence in vaccination.

Keywords: Covid-19, substance use disorder, vaccine confidence

ASSESSMENT OF SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC AND CLINICAL DATA OF ONCOLOGY PATIENTS IN A MEDICAL ONCOLOGY UNIT WHO WERE CONSULTED TO THE PSYCHIATRY AND DETERMINING FACTORS INFLUENCING SUICIDAL IDEATION

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BACKGROUND AND AIM: The reviewed studies showed that cancer patients have an elevated risk of suicide when compared to the general population. The aim of this study is to evaluate the sociodemographic and clinical data of oncology patients receiving treatment at a university hospital, who were consulted to the psychiatry and to determine the factors influencing suicidality.

METHODS: Sociodemographic and clinical data of 155 cases who received outpatient and inpatient treatment in the medical oncology unit and were also consulted to the psychiatry of Izmir Katip Çelebi University Atatürk Training and Research Hospital between February 1, 2023 and February 1, 2024, were analyzed retrospectively. Ethical approval for this study was obtained from the same hospital's Ethics Committee (2024-GOKAE-0082).

RESULTS: Out of the 155 patients, 39 (25.2%) were inpatients, 116 (74.8%) were outpatients, 80 (51.6%) were women and 75 (48.4%) were men. The mean age of the patients was 59.50 ± 15.0 years, and mean duration of hospitalisation was 11.31 ± 9.6 days. Forty-eight patients (31.0%) had breast cancer, 37 (23.9%) had gastrointestinal cancer, 31 (20.0%) had lung cancer and 39 (25.1%) had other cancer diagnoses. Fifty-five (35.5%) patients were diagnosed with depressive disorders, 36 (23.2%) with adjustment disorders, 19 (12.3%) with anxiety disorders, 14 (9.0%) with delirium, 11 (7.1%) had sleep disorders, 6 (3.9%) with mixed anxiety and depressive disorder, 7 (4.5%) with other psychiatric disorders, and 7 (4.5%) were examined for administrative purposes. Twelve of the patients (7.7%) had thoughts of suicide. Suicide thoughts were found to be significantly higher in outpatients than inpatients ($p<0.05$) and in patients with breast cancer compared to patients diagnosed with other cancers ($p<0.05$) and less in married patients ($p<0.05$).

CONCLUSIONS: Sociodemographic, clinical data, and type of the cancer disease are among the factors affecting the risk of suicide in cancer patients. Identifying and treating these risk factors can contribute to the prevention of suicidality.

Keywords: cancer patients, psychiatric disorders, suicide