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Original Article

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Prevalence And Distribution Of Psychiatric Disorders Among Patients Visiting Psychiatry OPD In A Tertiary Care Centre In Mangalore.

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Abstract

Background: Objective: To assess the prevalence and patterns of psychiatric disorders among patients attending psychiatry OPD in a tertiary care centre in Mangalore. Study Design: Cross Sectional Study. Subjects and Methods: A total of 200 patients were studied in a period of six months from March to September 2018. The first 2 new patients attending psychiatry OPD were examined. Socio-demographic data was collected using the pre-designed structured proforma. Diagnosis was made based on the ICD-10 classification. Results: The Majority of psychiatric patients (27.8 %) belonged to age group 20-55 years. It was noted that Depressive Disorder (32%) was most commonly seen, followed by Anxiety Disorders (20%), Somatoform Disorder (19%), Substance Abuse Disorder (12%), Schizophrenia (10%), Bipolar Mood Disorder(7%). Conclusion: Female population were noted to have depressive episode, anxiety disorders and somatoform disorders in more common.

Keywords: Prevalence, OPD, new patients.

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Introduction

As a large proportion of psychiatric disorders present first to the tertiary health centres, the prevalence manifestations of the same become important. Psychiatric disorders have significant impact on individual's health, quality of life and also contributes to social burden. Due to the stigma surrounding psychiatric disorders, they remain under diagnosed and under treated and thus result in significant distress and disability to the patient and the care giver. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) data on global burden of disease, mental illnesses account for over 15 percent of the total burden of disease.^[1] The responsibility of early diagnosis is increasingly falling on healthcare professionals in tertiary healthcare centres.^[2] More patients present with physical symptoms rather than psychological or emotional complaints, and this further delays the early recognition of psychiatric disorders. Epidemiological studies regarding the prevalence of psychiatric disorders would aid in providing the pattern of specific disorders, and thus help in early diagnosis, irrespective of the department that patients may visit.

This study assesses the prevalence and patterns of psychiatric disorders among patients visiting the psychiatry out-patient department in a tertiary care centre. The knowledge of prevalence and patterns of psychiatric disorders will aid in the efficient planning and resource allocation in the health care system.

Objectives

To assess the prevalence and patterns of psychiatric disorders among patients visiting psychiatry out-patient department in a tertiary care centre.

Subjects and Methods

Sample:

New patients who visited the psychiatry out-patient department in a tertiary care centre in Mangalore.

Sample size:

A total of about 200 new patients seeking psychiatry care in an out-patient department in a tertiary care centre who aged more than 12 years were purposely selected for a study period of 6 months. First 2 new patients visiting psychiatry out-patient department were selected daily for the study. Children who were less than 12 years of age have been excluded from this study. Patients suffering from mental retardation and epilepsy have also been excluded from the study. Analysis was done using SPSS statistical software.

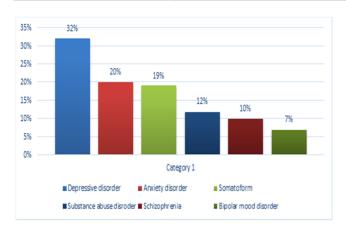
Proforma:

Information regarding patients was taken using predesigned structured proforma.

Diagnosis:

Was done by using ICD 10 criteria for diagnosis.

Deepthi et al; Prevalence And Distribution Of Psychiatric Disorders



Results

It was noted that Depressive Disorder (32%) was most commonly seen, followed by Anxiety Disorders (20%), Somatoform Disorder (19%), Substance Abuse Disorder (12%), Schizophrenia (10%), Bipolar Mood Disorder (7%). Female population were noted to have depressive episode, anxiety disorders and somatoform disorders in more common.

Discussion & Conclusion

Similar to other studies our study also showed that male population were majorly suffering from substance abuse disorder. The major precipitating factor for the psychiatric disorders according to our study were noted to

be poor financial status(12%), marital discord(10%), death of a family member(10%), lack of family support(9%). Mental health disorders account for nearly a sixth of all health-related disorders and yet we have just 0.4 psychiatrists and 0.02 psychologists per 100,000 people, and 0.25 mental health beds per 10,000 populations. [6] Mental healthcare can be provided at the community and primary level if its access to it is improved. Importance to Rehabilitation for chronic diseases should be given .There is a sincere need of much greater co-operation and collaboration between mental health and primary care health workers.

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