FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH COMPULSORY ADMISSION IN A PORTUGUESE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

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Objectives

To determine possible factors associated with compulsory admissions in a psychiatric hospital.

Background

Compulsory admissions are admissions against the will of the patient. The Portuguese mental health policy includes the Mental Health Act that rules the compulsory admission of patients with mental health disorders. This study examines the relation between demographic and clinical factors and compulsory admission in a psychiatric hospital.

Materials and Methods

A total of 509 admissions to Lisbon Psychiatric Hospital (Centro Hospitalar Psiquiátrico de Lisboa) between 01/01/2017 and 31/12/2017 were examined retrospectively. Data relating gender, age and diagnosis were collected from case records. The 10th revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10) was used for diagnosis. Diagnosis was divided into 3 groups: Psychosis, Mood Disorder and Others. A statistical analysis was conducted to examine the relationship between compulsory admission and age, gender and diagnosis.

Results

Among 509 patients admitted, 172 (33%) were compulsory admitted.

When comparing the type of admission by age groups, it appears that the groups <25, 25-24 and 35-44 have higher percentage of compulsory admission than voluntary admission (Figure 2).

Age class was associated with compulsory admission ($\chi^2 = 19.999$, $p = 0,001$). Compulsory admission was higher than expected in the 25-34 years group. There was no association between gender and type of admission. There was an association between diagnosis and compulsory admission. ($\chi^2 = 24.657$, $p = 0,000$). Compulsory admission was higher than expected in patients with a psychosis diagnosis.

Table 1 Univariate analysis of variables studied for their association with type of admission				
	VA (N=337)	CA (N=172)	χ^2	P value
Age				
<25	24 (7%)	17 (10%)	19.999	0.001
25-34	31 (9%)	32 (19%)		
35-44	58 (17%)	37 (21%)		
45-54	76 (23%)	31 (18%)		
55-64	69 (21%)	16 (9%)		
65+	79 (23%)	39 (23%)		
Gender				
Female	156 (46%)	85 (49%)	0.447	0.504
Male	181 (54%)	87 (51%)		
Diagnosis				
Psychosis	76 (23%)	67 (39%)	26.657	0.000
Mood Disorders	113 (33%)	65 (38%)		
Others	148 (44%)	40 (23%)		

Conclusions

Compulsory admission was related with age (25-34) and a psychosis diagnosis. These patients can form a risk group requiring specific interventions.