

Abuse of Substances and Psychosis among Patients Admitted in Psychiatric Unit Kampala International University Teaching Hospital

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ABSTRACT

Globally, about 50% of individuals with psychosis have been linked with substance induced psychosis. Psychosis is known to be a serious mental condition that involves the person's losing contact with reality, to a greater or lesser extent, and is most often associated with certain mental illnesses like schizophrenia hence it is a common substance induced mental illnesses that occur as a result of use of drugs with patients presenting with positive and negative symptoms that reveal psychosis after prolonged use of the drugs. The main purpose of this study was to determine the prevalence of substance induced psychosis and commonly abuse drugs among admitted patients in psychiatric unit of Kampala international university teaching hospital. The study design was a retrospective study where all patient's files admitted in psychiatric hospital of Kampala International University record was observed using a predefined structure questionnaire. A total of 45 files were collected by Simple random sampling method. Data collected were identified by the use of a code number. Analysis of data was done with Microsoft excel 2010 and analyzed using statistical packaging for social scientists (SPSS) version 17. Data was presented in charts and tables. Out of 40 patients' files, 87.5% were males, 12.5% were females, and 57.5% live in rural area, 42.5% live in town, 42.5% were none educated, 37.5 ended in primary, 15% ended in secondary and 5% were tertiary graduates. In this study, the commonly abused substances were alcohol, cigarettes, multiple drugs and marijuana. The ratio of patients admitted with psychosis is higher in men than in females as revealed by this study. The socio-economic factors influencing patients admitted due to substance abuse in this study include; low level of education and high rates of unemployment. In this study the common abused substances, alcohol being highly abused followed by cigarettes then those multiple and finally marijuana. The ratio of patients admitted with psychosis is higher in men as revealed by this study. The socio-economic factors influencing patients admitted due to substance abuse in this study include; low level of education, high rates of unemployment.

Keywords: Substance abuse, psychosis and psychiatrics

INTRODUCTION

Substance abuse also known as drug abuse is the use of any drug usually by self-administration in a manner that deviates from approved social or medical pattern [10-15]. The most commonly used drugs have been part of human existence for thousands of years for example; opium, has been used for medicinal purposes for at least 3500 years, references to cannabis (marijuana) as a medicine can be found in ancient Chinese herbals, wine is mentioned frequently in the bible and the natives of the western hemisphere smoked tobacco and chewed coca leaves. Substances abuse form designated classes of pharmacological agents include; alcohol, amphetamines, caffeine, cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, nicotine, opioids, phencyclidine and the sedatives [6-9]. Globally research indicates that 50% of individuals with psychosis have a lifetime prevalence of substance use [10]. The prevalence of substance induced psychosis is unknown [11]. Psychosis is a

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serious mental condition that involves the person's losing contact with reality, to a greater or lesser extent, and is most often associated with certain mental illnesses like schizophrenia hence it is a common substance induced mental illnesses that occur as result of use of such drugs with patients presenting with positive and negative symptoms that reveal psychosis after prolonged use of the drugs [12-15]. Psychosis and substance abuse co-occur more frequently than can be explained by chance alone, this may be because substance abusers are at a higher risk of developing psychosis and also because psychotic patients are at a high risk of developing the tendency for substance abuse [16]. Individuals with psychosis have a higher prevalence of substance use than the general population [17-18]. The concept of how different substances act on the specific neurotransmitter systems to either stimulate or depress to produce psychosis could provide important clues about the pathophysiology of psychotic disorders. The ability of specific psychogenic properties of specific substances causing psychosis is useful to evaluate the risk of developing psychosis among drug users [15]. Psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorders are disorders that may be characterized by symptoms of bizarre delusions, auditory hallucinations, and delusions of persecution [12]. Although a lot of researches have been done on substances like alcohol, amphetamines, cannabis and khat with their relationship to psychosis, several substances are abused in combination and possess different psychotogenic properties towards eliciting psychosis, this study will reveal the effect of substances abused to the increased cases of psychotic patients admitted since the past one year and it's from this context that a study should be done, drug and alcohol addiction is a leading cause of raising health care cost and has adverse effect on people's health, social and occupational functioning [19].

METHODOLOGY

Study area

Kampala international university western campus teaching hospital (KIUTH) located in the southeastern part of Kampala, Uganda's largest and capital city.

Study population

The study was carried out among male and female patients admitted at KIU-TH mental health unit.

Study design

The retrospective descriptive study design was used in this research.

Study units and respondents

The study units were health care providers care givers responsible for the psychotic patients admitted at KIUTH mental health unit.

Sample size

The sample size (n) was calculated using the krejcie, Robert v, Morgan, Daryle W, for determining sample size for research activities. With approximation of 45 respondents, 40 was required for the study.

Sampling technique

Simple random sampling method was employed to recruit records of study participants.

Data collection and data analysis

A questionnaire (see appendix iii) was used against documented patient files and hospital records retrospectively as both primary and secondary data sources to assess drug induced psychosis and its prevalence. The data was then be further be entered into Microsoft excel 2010 to be analyzed and processed. The statistical relationships will be tested using statistical packaging for social scientists (SPSS) version 17. analysis will include cross tables and Pearson's coefficient.

Inclusion and Exclusion criteria

To be included in the study the following were considered.

- I. Should be records of a patient with history or admission at the mental health unit of KIUTH in 2018-2019.
- II. The patient records should meet the DSM V criteria for drug induced psychosis.

To be excluded, for patient records which qualified but had inadequate information required for data collection and all those not admitted within 2018-2019 were not be included in the study.

Ethical considerations of the study

Clearance was obtained from Kampala international university Research and Ethics committee, permission to carry out the research was obtained from KIUTH administration informed consent was sought and obtained from participants, all results were treated with utmost confidentiality by ensuring that only authorized people have access to them. To ensure anonymity, no names was used instead codes only known to the researcher. The questionnaires were personally filled and adequate time will be accorded to each patient record to obtain appropriate answers to the questions.

RESULTS

40 patients were recruited in the study. 87.5% were males, 12.5% were females, and 57.5% stay in rural, 42.5% stay in town, 42.5% were none educated, 37.5 ended in primary, 15% ended in secondary and 5% were tertiary graduates.

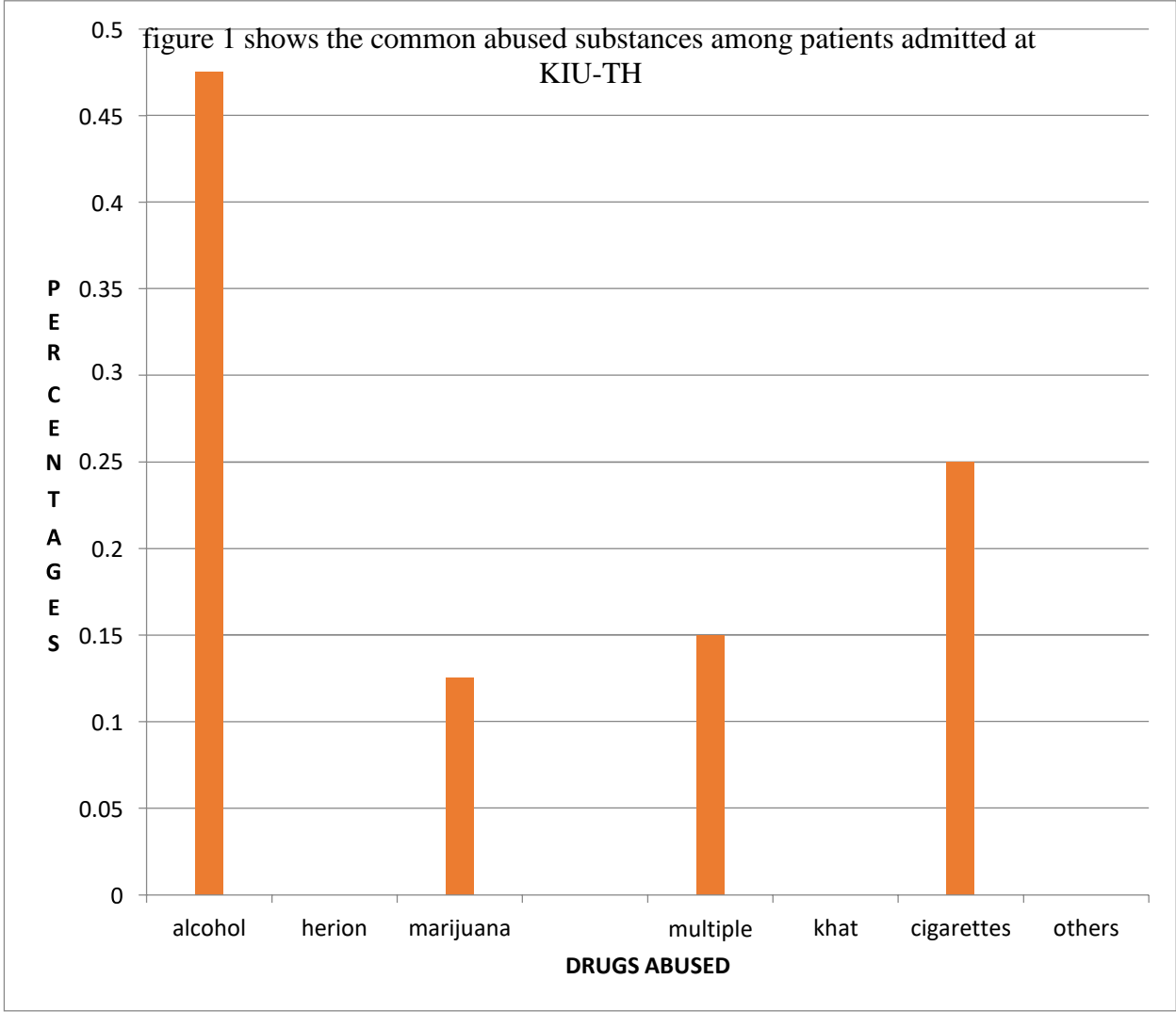
Table 1 shows the socio-demographic characteristics of patients admitted at psychiatric unit

VARIABLE	FREQUENCY(N)	PERCENTAGE (%)
GENDAR		
MALE	35	87.5
FEMALE	05	12.5
RESIDENCE		
RURAL	23	57.5
TOWN	17	42.5
EDUCATION LEVEL		
NONE	17	42.5
PRIMARY	15	37.5
SECONDARY	06	15
TERTIARY	02	5

Table 2 shows the common abused substances among admitted patients

The table above shows the common abused substances. Alcohol highly abused 47.5%, followed by cigarettes 25% then multiple 15% and finally marijuana 12.5%.

variable	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
drugs		
alcohol	19	47.5
herion	0	0.0
marijuana	05	12.5
multiple	06	15
khat	00	0.0
cigarettes	10	25
others	00	0.0



The figure above shows the common abused substances, alcohol being highly abuse followed by cigarettes then those multiple and finally marijuana

Objective 2: to find the ratio of admitted patients with psychosis in psychiatric unit

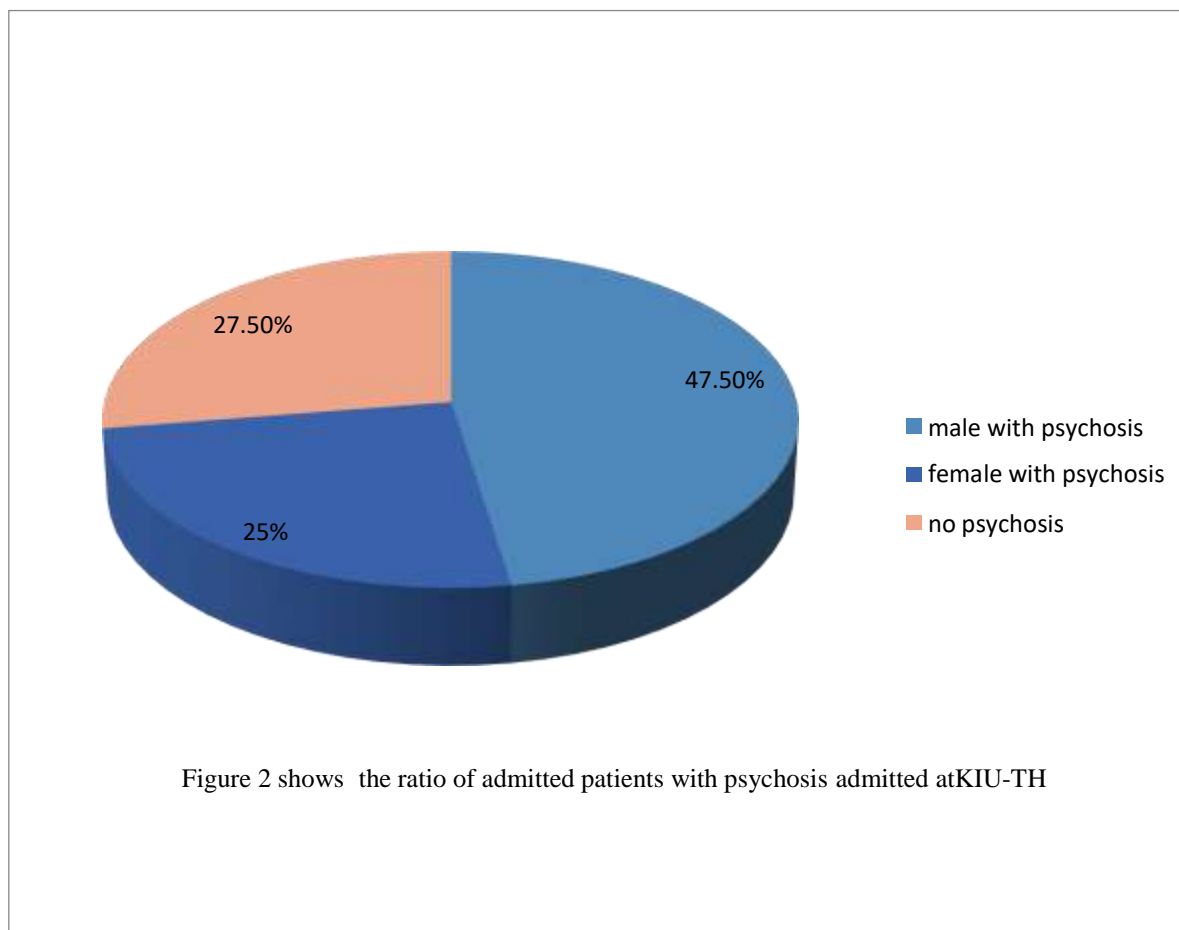


Figure 2 shows the ratio of admitted patients with psychosis admitted at KIU-TH

Table 3 shows multivariate analysis of socio-economic factors influencing substance abuse

Variables	OR	95%CI	P-VALUE
Level Of Education			
None	0.231	1.023-2.451	0.002*
Primary	0.651	0.223-1.034	0.121
Secondary	0.302	0.543-1.724	0.101
Tertiary	1.000		
Residence			
Rural	1.000		
Town	0.423	0.524-1.820	0.011*
Employment Status			
Unemployment	0.135	0.263-2.033	0.001*
Employed	1.000		

*Statistically Significant $P < 0.05$

DISCUSSION

In this study the common abused substances, alcohol being highly abuse followed by cigarettes then those multiple and finally marijuana. This is supported by other different researches Alcoholism is one of the most common psychiatric disorders observed in the western world, alcohol related problems in the United States contribute to 2 million injuries each year including 22000 deaths [9]. A 2015 Dutch literature review on alcohol induced psychosis found that their 0.4% lifetime prevalence in the population and 4% prevalence of alcohol induced psychosis in patients with alcohol dependence, the incidence being highest in working age men, there is also a higher prevalence in of alcohol induced psychosis in patients who become dependent on alcohol at a young age as well as those with a low socioeconomic status, individuals who are unemployed or living on their pension and those who live alone [20]. The ratio of patients admitted with psychosis is higher in men as revealed by this study. This is supported by other studies [21] reported a study on 476 users in order to assess dependence and the presence of psychotic symptoms and found that the rate of psychotic symptoms increased with greater cocaine use, only 6.7% who did not meet the criteria for a diagnosis of cocaine abuse or dependence had psychotic symptoms, same authors found that a younger age was related to a greater risk of psychosis, additionally, more subjects who develop psychosis after cocaine use are likely to be men with have along and more severe history of abuse. Consequently, poverty can exclude individuals from access to the social opportunities and economic participation enjoyed by others, in addition to these socioeconomic and psychosocial consequences, stigma can also decrease the likelihood that people with a mental illness looking for mental health care [22-26]. Psychosis is associated with increased risks of poverty hence; psychosis can be viewed as an important factor in determining social and economic disadvantage. The relationship between social disadvantage and poor health status is clear. People who have a psychotic illness exhibit higher rates of obesity, poor physical health co-morbidity and higher rates of substance abuse than the general population [23-26].

CONCLUSION

In this study the common abused substances, alcohol being highly abuse followed by cigarettes then those multiple and finally marijuana. The ratio of patients admitted with psychosis is higher in men as revealed by this study. The socioeconomic factors influencing patients admitted due to substance abuse in this study include; low level of education, high rates of unemployment

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CITE AS:Katumba Marvin (2023). Abuse of Substances and Psychosis among Patients Admitted in Psychiatric Unit Kampala International University TeachingHospital. Eurasian Experiment Journal of Public Health, 4(2):1-9.