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Profiling for Alcohol Addiction

 I. Papava¹, A.C. Bredicean¹, V.R. Enatescu¹, L. Dehelean¹, F. Romosan¹, A.L. Popescu², A.E. Vrabie³
¹Neuroscience, "Victor Babes" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania ; ²Psychiatry, University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mures, Romania ; ³General Medicine Nurse, "Victor Babes" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania

Introduction: 4.4% of the global burden of diseases are due to alcohol consumption. Ethanol addiction is caused by multiple factors like personal and environmental vulnerability.

Objectives: To analyze the provenience, the educational level, the most frequent personality trades and the genetic load for psychiatric disorders in a sample of subjects with ethanol addiction.

Aims: To demonstrate that a specific profile for a person with high risk for ethanol addiction exists.

Methods: A sample of 46 subjects, admitted between November 2013 and January 2014 in Timisoara's Psychiatric Clinic with Ethanol Addiction was analyzed. We evaluated the following: provenience, personality trades, genetic load for psychiatric disorders and occupational status. Personality trades were evaluated using the Personality Assessment Schedule – ICD-10 version.

Results: Most of the subjects were males (86.95%), unemployed (39.13%), have finished high school (47.82%) and had one of the parents with chronic consumption of ethanol. The sample was equally distributed between urban and rural. The most frequent personality trades were: the need to be liked and accepted, sensitivity to critique and rejection; intrapsychic tension and anxiety; the sense of inferiority, submission, excessive docility and a lack of assuming responsibility.

Conclusions: The profile of a person predisposed for alcohol addiction is: an unemployed male, without a higher education, with a chronic ethanol consumer father, and with certain personality trades like the need to be liked and accepted, sensitivity to critique and rejection; intrapsychic tension and anxiety; the sense of inferiority, submission, excessive docility and a lack of assuming responsibility.