

## ***The Prevalence of Alcohol Dependence Syndrome among Seniors Hospitalised in the Psychogeriatric Wards of the Kromeriz Psychiatric Hospital – comparison of the years 2001 and 2011***



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**BACKGROUND:** *The latest demographic trends, marked by the ageing of the population, suggest that senior citizens must be taken into consideration as a significant and specific group of consumers of health and social services. While often hidden and previously disregarded, alcohol misuse and alcohol dependence pose a major problem among this population, as shown by recent prevalence estimates. AIMS:* The aim of the study was to compare the prevalence of alcohol dependence among seniors hospitalised in the psychogeriatric wards of the Kromeriz Psychiatric Hospital between 2001 and 2011. **DESIGN AND MEASUREMENTS, PARTICIPANTS:** *Computerised medical records were analysed and the data concerning the prevalence of alcohol dependence among senior patients for the*

*years 2001 (1087 patients) and 2011 (1012 patients) were compared. RESULTS:* In 2001 alcohol dependence was the primary admission diagnosis in 30 patients (2.8% of all psychiatric admission diagnoses), while in 2011 alcohol dependence was the primary admission diagnosis in 69 patients (6.8% of all psychiatric admission diagnoses). **CONCLUSION:** *Between 2001 and 2011 there was a twofold increase in the prevalence of alcohol dependence as the primary admission diagnosis among seniors hospitalised in the Kromeriz Psychiatric Hospital.*

**KEY WORDS:** ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE – SENIORS – GENDER – PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALISATION – INCREASE IN PREVALENCE

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