

P-247 - THE UNEXPLAINED CHEST PAIN: PRELIMINARY DATA OF AN OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

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Background: It is possible to find an organic cause just for 1/3 of patients admitted to hospital with chest pain [1]. For the other 2/3 we are dealing with Unexplained Chest Pain [2].

Many studies demonstrated that in a high percentage of people that suffer of UCP there are mental disorders and unfavourable social and psychological factors [3,4,5].

Aim: The aim of this study was to estimate prevalence and to outline the psychological, social, anxious, depressive and somatoform state of patients admitted to emergency ward.

Method: We recruited 319 patients, 169 treated in Udine's Emergency ward for chest pain and a control group of 150 patients that went to their family doctor with other symptoms.

Each of them completed self-administered tests searching socio-demographic characteristics, anxiety, depression, somatization, alexithymia, stress factors and child abuse. After 3 months we selected, using the hospitals database, patients that had confirmed diagnosis of UCP.

Results: Prevalence of UCP in patients treated in Udine's emergency room was 45,5% (n77). We found a statistically significant difference between patients with UCP and control healthy group in the somatization subscale of SCL90 ($\chi^2=18,2$; $p < 0,0001$) and anxiety subscale of HADS ($\chi^2=21,5$; $p < 0,0001$).

Conclusions: A high percentage of hospitalized patients in the emergency ward for chest pain did not receive diagnosis of an organic pathology. It's possible to find in these patients a greater tendency to somatization and presence of anxiety symptoms. This data is in line with what recent literature shows.