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ANTIDEPRESSANTS IN TREATMENT OF OPIATE POST-DETOXICATION DEPRESSIVE SYNDROME

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Withdrawal syndrome and post-detoxication period in opiate addicts is characterized by different psychopathologic phenomena including the depressive syndrome.

The aim was to determine the response of the depressive symptoms in opiate post-detoxication syndrome to antidepressants.

Within the sample of 54 heroin addicts detoxified in the period June 2008 to December 2008, 33% were diagnosed as depression requiring treatment with antidepressants.

The assessment of depression performed 21 day after the last use of opiate by means of CGI-S scale and the improvement during the treatment by CGI-I scale. Duration of the treatment lasted 4 months on average.

The results show reduction in depressive symptoms registered in 83% of patients for at least one point on the CGI-I scale, also patients were kept in the treatment programme approximately 2 months longer than average.

Opiate post-detoxication syndrome with depressive symptoms indicates antidepressant use and resulted in remission or recovery of symptoms and improves possibilities to keep patients in integrative treatment program

References:

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