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Title: Motivation to quit smoking among patients with atherosclerosis compared with asymptomatic smokers

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Body: Smoking habit is a severe factor of risk that exacerbates diseases of human organs accenting pulmonary diseases. It is worth to assess the range of addiction and motivation to quit smoking among patients suffering from one of the form of atherosclerosis- peripheral arterial disease(PAD). The objective of this study was to compare the stage of addiction and the level of motivation to quit smoking of patients with PAD with asymptomatic smokers. 30 patients with PAD and 40 asymptomatic smokers were examined using Schneider motivation test (Sm) and Fagerstrom Test (FT) for Nicotine Dependence. The clinical data was collected: Fontaine's classification, number of pack- years, amputation episodes, amount of hospitalization, age and associated diseases. Sm score of patients with PAD is higher (8,8 points) than motivation of asymptomatic smokers (8,6 points) whereas the stage of addiction is lower (5,2) in contrast to the control group(5,7)-difference not significant. There is a significantly higher score of Sm among patient with amputation versus patient without ($p<0,01$). The correlation between the pack-years smoked with FT was observed ($p=0,02$, $R=0,54$). Distinctive is the progress of lower limbs ischemia in order to the second-hand smoke exposition ($p=0,01$). There was a tendency to the correlation between the motivation level and the FT results. Patients with PAD represent a very specific group which is required to provide an effective way of addiction recovery. The higher is the level of disability correlated with amputation episodes, ischemia and IHD, the more significant is the score of Sm. The participation of the second- hand smoke is the agent which affects the PAD course.