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Title: Mental disorders prevalence in COPD patients

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Body: Mental disorders significantly affect prognosis and quality of life of COPD patients. However, the available mental disorders prevalence data is characterized by a wide range of estimates (6-42% for depression, 2-96% for anxiety). The studies already published have methodological limitations, including relying on solely on psychometric instruments, lack of psychiatric examination. Aim: Investigate the prevalence of mental disorders in COPD patients. Methods: In multicenter study sample consisted of 122 COPD in- and outpatients receiving treatment in 4 Moscow hospitals (male n=97; mean age 66,5±9,82 yr.). All participants were examined by pulmonologist, clinically interviewed by psychiatrist, and completed series of psychometric tests (HADS, BDI). Results: Clinical examination identified depressive disorders in 23.8% patients, while psychometric data showed higher estimates (34.4%). Anxious, neurotic and stress-related disorders were detected in 19.7% cases. A large number of organic/somatogenic mental disorders was also registered: asthenia (47.5%) and mild cognitive dysfunction (preclinical stage of dementia – 32.8%). In 2 patients (1.6%) clinical dementia was registered. Asthenia and cognitive dysfunction were more common in patients with higher severity of respiratory failure (III degree - 64.4%), airflow obstruction (III, IV - 39.1% of patients), and in older patients. Discussion: Direct psychiatric examination showed significantly less depression rates in COPD patients than was evaluated by a psychometric instrument. This discrepancy may be due to the overlap of COPD symptoms and psychometrically registered depression symptoms (“scale symptom contamination”). High prevalence of organic mental disorders was revealed in COPD sample.