Abstract

The article presents a data survey, gathered in order to estimate the prevalence of co-occurring mental illness, drug addiction and/or alcoholism in the Veneto Region among patients of the Substance Abuse Departments as of 31 December 2002.

The research indicated that 20% of patients undergoing a prolonged treatment within the Substance Abuse Departments (which include both the public Drug Addiction Services and the public and private Therapeutic Communities) were affected by dual diagnosis as of Dec. 31, 2002; the percentage rise to 48.4% in those patients undergoing rehabilitation treatment in a Therapeutic Communities.

In the case of alcohol addicts under treatment within the substance Abuse Departments, at the same date, the percentage of dual diagnosis patients was 18%, rising to 54% among those undergoing rehabilitation treatment in Therapeutic Communities.

Keywords: Psychiatric and substance use comorbidity, Epidemiological research, Drug and alcohol addiction