

**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SEVERITY OF ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE
AND THE GASTRO-INTESTINAL TRACT CHANGES**

S U M M A R Y

54 alcohol dependent persons were examined. For each subject the alcohol dependence severity was assessed using the Sidorowicz scale with somatic symptoms included. The scale consists of 35 items with a 4-point scale each, for rating a given symptom intensity. In addition to the general medical examination panendoscopy was performed and mucosal segments were obtained for histopathological examination. Moreover, aminotransferase activity in the blood was estimated, and intestinal absorption was assessed by means of the d-xylose test and ferric curve. USG of the liver and pancreas was carried out and chymotrypsin activity in the faeces was determined.

Histopathological changes depending on the dependence syndrome severity were found in 85 per cent of cases. Absorption disorders less markedly related to the alcohol dependence severity were observed in about a half of the subjects.

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