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The evaluation of factors influencing the drinking model in male alcoholics

Summary

296 men hospitalized with the diagnosis of alcohol dependence were included in the study. A one year follow-up evaluation was made in 82 cases. In the earlier phase of the study the patients were assigned to two typological groups on the basis of clinical features and personality characteristics. The results of this phase are presented elsewhere. Comparison of clinical features of the two groups revealed that group 2 was characterized by an earlier age of onset, more heavy dependence, more frequent history of alcohol problems in the family, and higher incidence of somatic diseases and psychiatric disorders. Patients assigned to this group drank alcohol in a periodic manner. No relationship was found between typological distinction based on personality features and the model of drinking. Long lasting dependence was usually characterized by periodic drinking, while systematic drinking was usually common in its early stages. One year follow-up study did not confirm any relationship between the model of drinking and the maintainance of abstinence.

Key words: alcoholism\typology\pattern of drinking

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