

P r a c e o r y g i n a l n e

**ASSESSMENT OF FAMILY RELATIONS
BY PERSONS DEPENDENT
ON ALCOHOL AND THEIR SPOUSES**

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ABSTRACT – The aim of the research was to assess selected aspects of family relations by the members of the marital dyad, in which one member was dependent on alcohol. The assessment concerned family as a whole ones own functioning within the family and dyadic relations from the wife's as well husband perspective.

One hundred marital pairs (19 with the wife and 81 with the husband dependent on alcohol) were assessed by Family Assessment Questionnaire (modification of FAM by Cierpka) as well 100 marriages of the control group, in which nobody was suffering from mental illness and alcohol dependence.

The results indicate that in every aspect of the family assessment, persons dependent on alcohol, an especially their partners were significantly different from the control group. The more negative family assessments were always made by the marriages, in which one partner was alcohol dependent, than by the control group. Family as the whole was most negatively assessed by the partners of the drinking persons, while they, have considerably poor assessment of their own functioning within the family. The research group was most different from the control group in the assessment of the relations in the marital dyad, the partners of alcohol dependent persons made significantly worst assessment of every aspect of the marital relations than their spouses.

The results of the research strongly confirmed the importance of the psychotherapeutic work with the whole family system and especially with the marital dyad in the treatment of alcohol dependence.

Key words: alcohol dependence, family relations.