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The aim of investigation is an improvement of complex psychologo-psychiatric expertise and diagnostical estimation of criminally relevant mental and behavioral disorders of adolescents commiting aggressive and violente offences.

Materials and methods: The 550 adolescents commiting homicides or another grave agressive-violent crimes against personality were examined by complex clinical psychopathological, pathopsychological and instrumental diagnostical methods. A middle age of the patients -16,8.

Results: In 37,3% of the patients organic personality disorders, in 35,4%- schizophrenia spectrum, in 21,3% - pathological formation of a character; in 6% -other nosological states were diagnosed. 67% of adolescents were the social orphans, severe relationships in families were authentic in 55% of cases, 32% were socially desadaptated, 56% revealed the risk of total desadaptation. In 58,5% of the sample different variants of abnormal mental development were presented.

Conclusion: An algorithm of estimation of agressive violent behaviour among the children and adolescents means a carrying out of complex phsychologo-psychiatric investigation in view of clinical psychopathological and psychological estimation of formation of agression in ontogenesis; dynamics of age development of crisis periods; the analysis of psychological, social and clinical components of agressive dehaviour, social functioning, estimation of behaviour and motivation of criminally significant period at fulfilment of socially dangerous act; analysis and synthesis of an expert research, instrumental diagnostic data with a formulation and substantiation of the expert judgement on criminal case (the proof of conclusions of expertise).

P389

Factors of adaptation of imprisoned in Russia

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Background: The period of adaptation in the places of imprisonment is accompanied by the complex of experiencing as a «prison syndrome».

Aim of the study is to find out predictors of adaptation in prison.

Materials and method: A cohort of 70 inmates was studied by psychiatrists in prisons of Russia, all of them had committed crimes of violence.

Results: A "prison syndrome" reveals the state of depression, hopelessness, melancholy on a house and relatives with sense of guilt before them, disbelief in the forces, impossibility to find former status, passivity, apathy, decline of vital tone and drawings, sleep disorders, loss of interests. Factors of successfull (or unsuccessfull) adaptation could be divided into two groups: subjective and objective. Subjective are personality features: age, emotional reactivity, special features traits such as a resourcefulness, ability to manipulate by interests and necessities of people, physical force, vital experience, «experience» of criminal activity, amount of previous convictions and serving the punishments, participation in the former crimes, including the relation of condemned to prisons administration, to the educating measures, to the prisons mode, labour, studies and feature of conduct in the period of investigation, court. The objective factors are behaviours term on the sentence, article of the criminal law, belonging to the informal group, system of relations and microclimate in prison, physical and psychical health of condemned.

P390

Psychiatric services for undocumented immigrants in the USA

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Background and aims: Immigrating to the USA is extremely frequent. Migrants come from different countries and different levels of society and some of them carry some form of mental illness. Imperial County has one of the 6 detention centers for the undocumented in the nation. Since 1996 this center has had the same psychiatric consultant to provide services to the detainees. This study was conducted to have better understanding of the clinical and social issues of this population.

Methods: Retrospective record review of all psychiatric consultations from 1996 to 2006. Statistical analysis with t-test and ANOVA.

Results: A total of 2480 psychiatric cases were reviewed. The majority were from Latin America, especially from Mexico (p<0.001), followed by individuals from Asia including the Middle East and very few from Europe, Africa and Canada. The most common diagnoses included psychotic disorders (related and non-related to drug use) and bipolar disorders. Level of education was usually low, and over a third of the population had a criminal history. Remarkable differences were found on individuals who were subject to deportation after legally living 20 years or more in the country versus those who were detained while attempting to illegally enter the country.

Conclusions: Migration from emergent to developed countries is common and controversial in our planet. In the USA this phenomenon is frequent and demands the concurrence of government, community, law enforcement and financial efforts. The debate as to what services should be provided to these individuals by the destination country must continue.

P391

Monitoring research on act on medical care and treatment for insane or quasi-insane persons who caused serious incidents in Japan

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Objective: The Act on medical care and treatment for insane or quasi-insane person who have caused serious incidents in Japan went into effect in July, 2005. It is critical to understand the current situation and the issue concerning medical care in this legal system for revision of the Act five years later. Therefore, this research aims to evaluate and analyze the information comprehensively collected from designated inpatient medical institutions and outpatient medical institutions from a technical standpoint.

Method: The subjects of this research are 50 cases from designated inpatient medical institutions and 4 cases from designated outpatient medical institutions who have been registered as the subject of treatment under the Act. Static information at the time of the treatment starts and dynamic information, such as treatment evaluation usually created periodically in routine work, were the specific documentation for this research. From the information, variables required for analysis of improvement of medical care and operational situation of the Act were collected through the use of a database system.

Results and Conclusion: Since the Act was enacted last year, this one year research remains as a short term monitoring targeting a few cases. In this report, evaluation and progress of treatment of the subject will be presented with the information relevant to the mental illness and the judicial system exposed by collected various kinds of data. From this information, we outline the current situation and issues in this legal system and shows the usability of the result from this monitoring research.

P392

Objectification of the diminished responsibility criteria

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The aim of the study is objectification of the diminished responsibility criteria.

Methods: Clinical psychopathological, statistical analysis.

Results: Decision of diminished responsibility in 70% of patients was connected with assessment of the severity of disorder, that were mainly psychopathic and organic syndromes non specific in relation to forensic psychiatric decision. There is a need in non-clinical parameter helpful to assess a tendency of psychopathological condition. The social adjustment indices found out to be such a parameter. The indices included: educational level; employment and its concordance with patient's education; registration at the dispensary (outpatient mental health clinic); number of inpatient treatment; marital status, family relationships, patient's position in a group of reference. The study has shown the lower level of social adjustment in the group of diminished responsible patients. They were more often registered at the dispensaries and had a history of inpatient mental health treatment. They were low educated and engaged in lower paid and low qualification job. More than 50% did not have family.

Thus, assessing the patients with clinically similar parameters it is necessary to take into account the social adjustment parameters to objectify the forensic psychiatric decision.

P393

Do psychiatric patients improve their competence to consent involuntary hospitalisation after an admission?

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Introduction: There is hardly any research work on the evolution of a psychiatric patient's competence throughout his/her stay in hospital. This (fact) prompted our team of professionals to consider the importance of studying this evolution and trying to determine the variables affecting the improvement of that competence.

Objectives: Competence to consent to hospitalization has important clinical and ethical implications. However, there are no follow-up studies that evaluate the improvement on competence during psychiatric hospitalization. The authors sought to determine whether patients admitted to a psychiatric ward as incompetent to consent to hospitalization improve their competence during hospitalization.

Method: A total of 160 consecutively admitted patients were administered the Competence Questionnaire (CQ), a structured scale designed to assess competence to consent to psychiatric hospitalization. CQ was administered both upon admission and at discharge. Severity and acuity of the psychiatric disorder were assessed with the Severity of Psychiatric Illness Scale (SPIS) and the Acuity of Psychiatric Illness Scale (APIS).

Results: Of the 160 assessed patients, 70 (43.8%) were rated incompetent. 45 of these 70 incompetent patients completed the admission to discharge follow-up. 21 of these 45 patients (46.6%) remained incompetent at discharge. Participation in the treatment process was the only variable which predicted improvement on competence during hospitalization. Severity of psychiatric illness at admission did not predict improvement on competence.

Conclusions: Nearly half of the patients admitted incompetent in an acute inpatient ward remained incompetent at discharged.

P394

Nature and nurture influence later-life violence: serotonergic genes and childhood adversity

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We investigated the contribution of polymorphisms shown to moderate transcription of serotonin transporter (5HTT) and monoamine oxidase A (MAOA) to the development of violence, and furthermore to test for gene x environment interactions. To do so, a cohort of 184 adult male volunteers referred for forensic assessment were assigned to a violent or non-violent group. 45% of violent, but only 30% of non-violent individuals carried the low-activity, short MAOA allele. In the violent group, carriers of low-function variants of 5HTT were found in 77%, as compared to 59%. Logistic regression was performed and the best fitting model revealed a significant, independent effect of childhood environment and MAOA genotype. A significant influence of an interaction between childhood environment and 5HTT genotype was found (Fig. 1). MAOA thus appears to be independently associated with violent crime, while there is a relevant 5HTT x environment interaction.