

## Hospitalized Mental Health Disorders in the Elderly Monastir Tunisia (2002-2013)

*Dhouib W  
Chelly S  
Kacem M  
Ben Fredj M  
Abroug H  
Zemni I  
Djobbi A  
Gren A  
Bouannene I  
El Mhamdi S  
Sriha Belghith A*

*Department of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology of Monastir*

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Mental health disorders (MHD) are diseases that carry a heavy burden and may require hospitalization. MHD requiring hospitalization in the elderly is poorly studied. We aimed to describe hospitalized MHD in age group  $\geq 65$  years.

**Methods:** We have included all hospitalizations for MHD (using ICD-10 coding: F00 to F99) at the university hospital of Monastir between 2002 and 2013. Enrolled patients were residents of Monastir. Data were collected from the regional register of hospital morbidity and mortality implemented at the Department of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology.

**Results:** During the period of 12 years, 4,394 hospitalizations for MHD were recorded with 168 for the age group  $\geq 65$  years (3.82%). The most common hospitalized pathologies were Schizophrenia with (56 cases), Depressive episodes (37 cases) Bipolar affective disorder (23 cases), Manic episode (13 cases) and Dementia (12 cases). Sex ratio (F/M) was 1.27. Among patients aged more than 80, ten (10) were hospitalized for MHD. The median length of stay was 12, 5 days (1-82) with a fatality rate of 2.38%.

**Conclusion:** Results shows that MHD that require hospitalization are not neglectful. Even the with the non-important number of deaths during a period of 12 years, the exact cause of death should be specified.