

Osteoarthritis in Hospitalized Patients over 65: Prevalence and Trend, Monastir, Tunisia, 2002-2013

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Osteoarthritis is a common pathology which affects most commonly elderly persons. This condition is a real social and health problem. The aim of our study is to evaluate the prevalence and trend of this pathology.

Methods: We included all osteoarthritis hospitalizations using ICD-10 at Monastir Teaching Hospital between 2002 and 2013. The included patients were residents of Monastir. The data was collected from the Regional Hospital Morbidity and Mortality Registry, which is established in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology. The linear regression coefficient was used to estimate the trend of osteoarthritis. All results were calculated for patients over the age of 65. Only crude prevalence rate was calculated for patients over 60 years of age (National Institute of Statistics set the age limit).

Results: During the 12-year period, 275 patients were hospitalized for osteoarthritis. The mean age was 72.16 ± 5.56 years with female predominance (Sex ratio = 0.52). The crude prevalence rate was 52.72 / 100,000 inhabitants per year, with 25.64 / 100,000 for men and 43.71 / 100,000 for women. We reported a significant increase in the number of cases admitted for osteoarthritis from 2002 to 2013; ($b = 2.64$, $p < 10^{-3}$). YLD was 6.8 years / 100,000 inhabitants.

Conclusion: The results showed a high gross prevalence, especially among women, as well as a considerable increase in cases of osteoarthritis during the 12 years, which encourages us to push our investigations in order to understand and act on the various preventive axes.