



A SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC AND PSYCHIATRIC PROFILE OF SUICIDE PATIENTS ADMITTED IN EMERGENCY MEDICINE UNIT SRN HOSPITAL

General Medicine

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Suicide is a serious global health issue which presents in emergency in various forms.

Study design: A prospective follow up study was done in department of medicine and psychiatry, Swaroop Rani Hospital, MLN Medical College, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh where patients with alleged history of suicide by poisoning were admitted and followed up till the patient were discharged or deceased during the course of treatment.

Result: A total of 133 patients were taken in this study, Majority of the population belonged to the age group 21-40 years, 56.6% were female, which was statistically significant ($p=0.0001$). The most common mode of suicide in non-survivor group was organophosphorus poisoning (26%) followed by Celphos (17.3%) whereas in survivor group - organophosphorus poisoning (35.4%) was commonest followed by sedative (14.5%) and Celphos (13.6%). Majority of patients in both the groups did not complain of any psychiatric disorders (47.8% and 68.1%) however Mood disorders (30.4% and 13.6%) were significant in both non-survivors and survivors respectively

Conclusion: Majority of Suicide attempters were young patients belonging to the age group of 16-45 years with a female preponderance in non-survivors, Mood disorders made up the major Psychiatric morbidity.

KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION

According to WHO suicide is a serious global health issue and is among the top 20 leading cause of death worldwide¹. Every year more than 1,00,000 people commit suicide in our country. A total of 1,39,123 suicides were reported in the country during 2019 showing an increase of 3.4%. Majority of suicides were reported in Maharashtra (13.6%) followed by Tamil Nadu (9.7%), West Bengal (9.1%), Madhya Pradesh (9%) and Karnataka (8.1%). These 5 States together accounted for 49.5% of the total suicides reported in the country. In Uttar Pradesh 3.9% of suicide cases were reported².

According to National Crime Records Bureau most common means for committing suicide were hanging (53.6%), consuming poison (25.8%), drowning (5.2%) and fire/self-immolation (3.8%)². Some of the common risk factors for suicide are personality traits of aggression and impulsivity especially borderline, antisocial or narcissistic personality³, substance abuse⁴, mental illness⁵, anxiety⁶, reaction to stress⁷, depression in primary relatives⁸.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present study was conducted in department of Medicine and Psychiatry, Swaroop Rani Hospital, MLN Medical College Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. It was a prospective follow up study where patients with alleged history of suicide were admitted and follow up was done either till the patient was discharged or deceased during the course of treatment. A total of 133 patients were taken in the study. The patients were admitted and given primary and supportive treatment. All patients were screened with GHQ12 and those who gave a positive response were sent for a detailed psychiatric evaluation in Dept of Psychiatry or bed side reference was done by a Psychiatrist. The patients after psychiatric evaluation were categorised into various Clinical disorders according to DSM 5. On the basis of outcome patients were then divided into two major groups Survivors and Non-survivors.

RESULTS

A total of 133 patients were taken in this study all were In-patients admitted in emergency department SRN hospital, Prayagraj. Among them 23(17.2%) succumbed during the course of treatment and were included in non-survivor group while 110 (82.8%) belonged to survivor group. Majority of the population belonged to the age group 21-40 years in both non-survivor (52.1%) and survivor (58.1%) group. A gender-based difference was observed in both the groups, majority of the patients in non-survivor groups were female (56.6%) whereas in survivor group majority were males (81%) which was statistically significant ($p=0.0001$). The most common mode of suicide in non-

survivor group was organophosphorus poisoning (26%) followed by Celphos (17.3%) (Table 1). In survivor group organophosphorus poisoning (35.4%) followed by sedative (14.5%) and celphos poisoning (13.6%) predominated. On Psychiatric evaluation of patients in both the groups we found no psychiatric disorders (47.8% and 68.1%) respectively followed by mood disorders (30.4% and 13.6%) in non-survivors and survivors. table 2.

Table 1. Baseline characteristics

	Non-survivors (n=23)	Survivors(n=110)	X ²	p-value
Age(years)-	No.(%)	No.(%)		
10-20	9(39.1)	29(26.3)		
21-40	12(52.1)	64(58.1)		
41-60	1(4.4)	12(10.9)		
>60	1(4.4)	4(4.7)	2.05	0.56
Sex-				
Male	10(43.4)	89(81)		
Female	13(56.6)	21(19)	14	0.0001
Mode of suicide				
Organophosphorus	6(26)	39(35.4)		
Celphos	4(17.3)	15(13.6)		
Rodenticide	3(13)	5(4.5)		
Phenol		1(1.15)		
Corrosive	2(8.6)	2(1.8)		
Dhatura		3(2.7)		
Sedative	3(13)	16(14.5)		
Sindoor	2(8.6)	3(2.7)		
NSAID		2(1.8)		
Alcohol		9(8.1)		
Hanging	1(4.9)	6(5.4)		
Drowning		1(1.15)		
Other	2(8.6)	8(7.2)	11	0.35

Table 2. Psychiatry Disorders in patients

Psychiatric disorders	Non-Survivors(n=23)	Survivors (n=110)	p-value
Clinical syndrome scales			
Substance related disorders	5(21.7)	8(7.2)	0.08
Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders	0	3(2.7)	
Mood disorders	7(30.4)	15(13.6)	
Anxiety Disorders	0	5(4.5)	

Obsessive Compulsive and Related Disorders	0	0	
Somatic symptom and related disorders	0	0	
Factitious and Dissociative disorders	0	1(1.2)	
Sleep disorders	0	0	
Adjustment disorders	0	3(2.7)	
No Psychiatric Complaints	11(47.8)	75(68.1)	

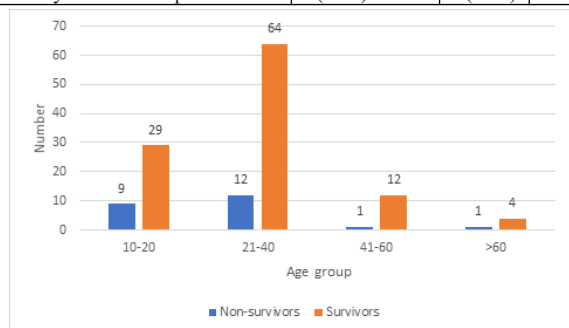


Fig 1. Distribution of patients based on Age

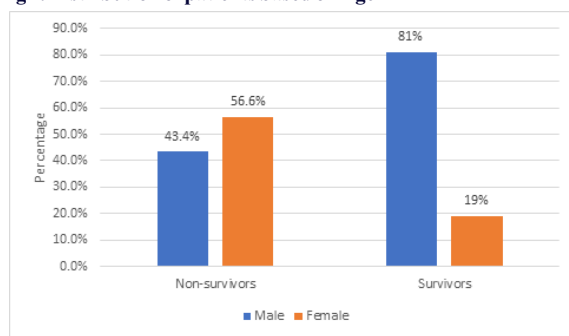


Fig 2. Distribution of cases based on sex

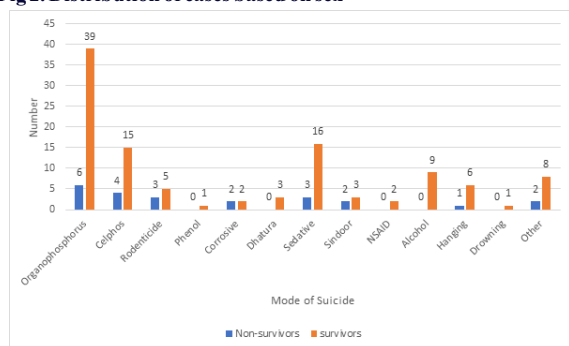


Fig 3 Mode of suicide among non-survivors and survivors

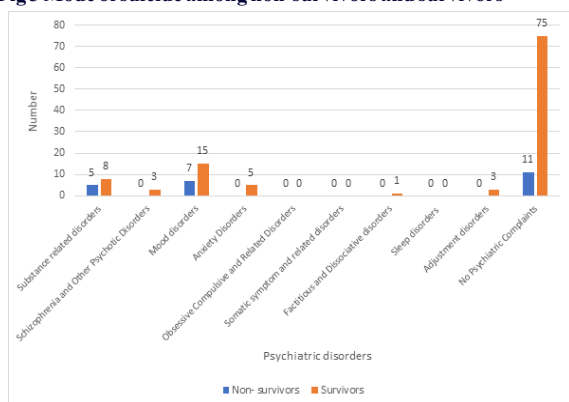


Fig 4. Psychiatric disorders in patients

DISCUSSION

Suicide has become a major problem in our country with increasing

trend every year. In this study we have tried to throw some light on the psychiatric disorders and demographic profile of patients.

In this study of 133 patients 23(17.2%) did not survive during the course of treatment while 110 (82.8%) belonged to survivor group. It was observed that in both non-survivor and survivor group majority of patients belonged to the age group 21-40 years 52.1% and 58.1% respectively. In a similar study done by Unni et al⁹ majority of patients who attempted suicide belonged to the age group of 16 and 45 years. Females comprised of majority of patients in non-survivor (56.6%) group whereas there was a male preponderance in survivors(81%) which was statistically significant ($p=0.0001$) supported by the study done by Banerjee et al¹⁰ out of 58 patients who committed suicide, 46 (79.3%) were females. Most common mode of suicide in both the groups was consumption of pesticides. In non-survivor group, organophosphorus poisoning (26%) followed by celphos (17.3%) while in survivor organophosphorus poisoning(35.4%) followed by sedative (14.5%) was the most commonly used substance. Various studies have shown that pesticide consumption is the most common mode of suicide in rural areas^{10,11,12}. On evaluation it was observed that majority of patients in both the groups had no psychiatric complaints (47.8% and 68.1%) followed by mood disorders (30.4% and 13.6%) in non-survivors and survivors respectively. In similar studies done previously mood disorders were most commonly associated with suicide followed by alcohol abuse^{13,14}.

CONCLUSION

Out of 133 patients we lost 23(17.2%) patients. Majority of life lost were in productive age group i.e.16 and 45 years. There was a female predominance in non-survivor group which was statistically significant($p=0.0001$). We also observed that most common mode of poisoning in our region was consumption of pesticides and patients had various psychiatric illness like Mood disorders, Substance Abuse in both the groups which were mostly undiagnosed and untreated leading to a sad loss of productive life. This study highlights an urgent need of awareness and education to this off neglected important topic of suicide prevention.

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