

THE ROLE OF POLIABUSO IN THE PATIENT WITH DUAL DIAGNOSIS

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Essentially two are the reasons that have determined the necessity of an operating change of the public services for drug addictions:

-the knowledge that the heroin represents the main substance, but also that a great percentage of patients uses other substances, especially cocaine, alcohol, nicotine;

-the attainment of better diagnostic definitions that can concur also the location of psychiatric pathologies associates, previous or successive to the use of abuse substances.

Moreover it's important to underline that the insufficiency of pharmacological garrisons and the insufficient accuracy or the lack of psychiatric diagnosis have been often translated in a fast presa in carico hospitalisation and in a treatment generally with hydrochloride methadone syrup that, besides a substitutive action of the heroin, exercises lots of effects on the S.N.C, with anxiolytic effects, on humour, on psychotic symptoms.

This drug not only doctors and cures drug addiction from opiate substances, but exercises also an action type "masking" of eventual associate psychopathology.

A great percentage of patients constantly uses more than one abuse substance, sometimes associating to the main substance of abuse a secondary one, sometimes more substances.

This happens for two main reasons:

-the simple search for "sballo" (the "trip") or, however, a progressive worsening of the ability to exercise a control on the use of substances;

-a more careful search, also partially unconscious, for a mix of substances that can give together those effects, also therapeutic ones, able to create well-being to the patient.

The following work, that it considers some groups of patients of a Sardinian Ser.T, compares the heroin use, of heroin joined to alcohol and/or cocaine to the eventual presence of psychiatric troubles and it tries to show how poliabuso abuse of more substances can sometimes drive them to the attempt of automedicazione self-made medication of psychiatric troubles concomitant or how these ones derive from the complex interrelation between effects of the substances and structure of personality.