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## Alcoholism and Alcohol Psychosis trends in Russia

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**A**lcoholism (alcohol dependence) is one of the most common Psychiatric Disorders in many European countries. Russia has one of the highest incidences of alcoholism and alcohol psychosis in Europe, which may be explained by high overall population drinking and prevalence of irregular heavy drinking of vodka. Some estimates suggest that a total number of alcoholics (alcohol-dependent individuals) in the late-Soviet Russia were ranging between 23 and 28 million. Currently, there are approximately 3 million alcoholics in Russia, and the number of heavy drinkers is three to four times that number. This study examines the phenomenon of high alcohol dependence and alcohol psychoses rate in Russia.

**Aims:** To estimate the aggregate level effect of alcohol consumption on the alcoholism/alcohol psychoses incidence rates in the Russian Federation.

**Method:** Trends in alcoholism/alcohol psychoses incidence rates and alcohol consumption per capita from 1970 to 2015 were analyzed employing an ARIMA (Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average) analysis.

**Results:** Alcohol consumption per capita is a statistically

significant factor associated with alcohol psychoses incidence rate, implying that a 1-l increase in per capita alcohol consumption is associated with an increase in the alcoholic psychoses incidence rate by 17.1%.

**Conclusion:** According to the results of present study there was a positive and statistically significant effect of per capita alcohol consumption on alcohol psychoses incidence rate in Russia. These findings suggest that the alcohol psychoses incidence rate is a good proxy for population drinking. The outcomes of this study also indicate, that the ratio in alcohol psychoses incidence rate to alcohol dependence incidence rate is considered to be an indicator of the efficiency of narcological service regarding early diagnosing and treatment for the alcohol dependence. The higher this ratio, the bigger is the number of alcohol-dependent individuals getting into doctor's eyeshot at advanced stages of the disease. The outcomes also provide indirect support for the hypothesis that the dramatic fluctuations in the alcohol psychoses incidence rate in Russia during the last decades were related to the availability/affordability of alcohol.

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