

Retrospective descriptive research of patient admitted to the intensive care unit on LS in the period of 1/1-2009-31/12-2013 caused by suicide attempts

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Abstract

Introduction: Statistic from 2014 show that there were 48346 inhabitants in the Faroe Islands, 25125 men og 23221 women. The intensive care unit G1 in Tórshavn yearly admits 1000 patients needing intensive care and observations. A part of these 1000 patients are people who have tried to attempt suicide. According to the public statistics, less than 10 patients are registered during the 5 year period from 1/1-2009 to 31/12-2013. This is not in accordance with observations made in praxis at the intensive care unit. To provide an overview and to characterise the admittance to intensive care unit, due to suicide attempts, **the aim of this study** was to describe the incidence of suicide attempts among the patients in the 5 year period. **Methods:** This is done by retrospectively evaluating the intensive units handwritten patient registrations, and computer based records. **Results:** 167 patient records were found. The age spread from 13 years to 70 years. 66% women and 34% men. The women represented mostly the youngest part except the age from 40 years-49 years where the men were more presented. 88 suicidal methods were used, mostly medicin - intoxication in different combinations. Paracetamol was the top medicine (32%). 59% were admitted for the first time, and 41% had tried it twice og more. 87% were visited by a psychiatric doctor, and 73% were followed ambulant, 17% were admitted to psychiatric unit in the hospital of Faroe Island while a few were moved to hospitals in Denmark. **Conclusion:** The research shows, that the public perception of the state of the public health is erroneous. As intensive care nurses, we are obliged to shed light on these facts. There is a risk that this is the only contact to the health care system, these patients have.

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