Burden of alcohol use disorder in Balkan countries

Jovana Todorovic¹, Milena Santric- Milicevic¹, Zorica Terzic- Supic¹, Aleksandar Stevanovic¹, Zeljka Stamenkovic¹, Natasa Terzic², Lidija Scepanovic², Tit Albreht³, Stela Stoisavljevic^{4,5}

¹Institute of Social Medicine, Medical Faculty, University of Belgrade; , ²Institute of Public Health of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro ³Institute of Public Health of Slovenia , Ljubljana, Slovenia; ⁴Institute of Public Health of Republika Srpska, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina; ⁵Faculty of Medicine, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Introduction

- Alcohol use is recognized as an important risk factor for more than 200 different diseases and injuries.
- •In the Diagnostic statistic Manual- 5 (DSM-5) it is defined as 'impaired control over alcohol consumption with chronic, heavy and often escalating pattern of alcohol use despite significant detrimental consequences to their overall health, the lives of their family members and friends and society in general'.

Objectives

The aim of this study was to describe the disability adjusted life years (DALY) associated with the alcohol use disorder in the Balkan countries in the period between 1990 and 2019.

Materials and methods

- The study included the data on age-standardized DALY rate per 100,000 for alcohol use disorder in the period between 1990 and 2019 for ten Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia
- and Slovenia) from the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation.
- We acknowledge the support from the COST Action 18218 – European Burden of Disease Network

<u>Results</u>

standardized DALY rate in 1990 was in Romania 484.03 per 100,000 (95% CI: 394.68-594.99)

The highest age-

The lowest burden measured in agestandardized DALY rates per 100,000 in 1990 was in Albania, and in 2019 was in Greece- 174.68, 95% CI: 113.66-251.34. The highest agestandardized DALY rate per 100,000 in 2019 was in Slovenia 427.75 (95% CI: 332.28-543.83).

Along with Slovenia, only country that recorded the increase in the age-standardized DALY rates in the period between 1990 and 2019 was Albania, but the increase was only marginal (DALY per 100,000 increased from 174.24, 95% CI: 115.07-244.76 to 187.92, 95% CI: 127.26-262.41).

Conclusions

- In the majority of the Balkan countries the age-standardized DALY rates per 100,000 for alcohol use disorder decreased in the observed period.
- The increase is observed for Slovenia and Albania, with the more apparent increase in Slovenia.
 References

• GBD 2016 Alcohol and Drug Use Collaborators. The global burden of disease attributable to alcohol and drug use in 195 countries and territories, 1990-2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. Lancet Psychiatry, 2018 Dec;5(12):987-1012. doi: 10.1016/S2215-0366(18)3037-7

Contact of the presenting author

Aleksandar Stevanovic Institute of Social Medicine

Medical Faculty

University of Belgrade

Phone: +381637168701

E-mail:aleksandar.stevanovic@med.bg.ac.rs