HOMOCYSTEINE LEVELS AND DIETARY PATTERNS AMONG YOUNG ADULTS FROM A BIRTH COHORT IN BRAZIL

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Introduction Hyperhomocysteinemia has been associated with ischaemic heart disease and stroke. Dietary intake of folate and other vitamins is a major determinant of blood homocysteine concentration. The objective of this study is to analyse the plasma homocysteine concentrations in young adults who have been followed since birth. In addition, homocysteine concentrations are presented in accordance to the main dietary patterns previously identified in this cohort.

Methods The 1982 Pelotas birth cohort included 5914 children who were born in three maternalities in a city of Southern Brazil (Pelotas). In 2004–2005, members of this cohort were interviewed and blood was collected in 5827 subjects. Food frequency questionnaire was applied in the interview and three main dietary patterns were defined by principal component analysis: common Brazilian (CB), processed food (PF) and vegetable/fruit (VF). Serum levels of homocysteine were determined using immunoassay analyser.

Results The mean of homocysteine was 8.45±3.72 μmol/l, and it was higher in men (9.50±3.71 μmol/l) than in women (7.39±3.32 μmol/l). Higher means of homocysteine were observed among subjects from the third tertile of intake for CB and PF dietary patterns. However, an inverse association was observed between levels of homocysteine and the tertiles of VF dietary pattern. The mean of homocysteine were 8.73±3.36, 8.44±3.38 and 8.19±3.09 μmol/l, respectively in the tertiles of VF dietary pattern (p<0.001).

Conclusion These findings suggest that homocysteine concentrations were lower among subjects who adhered to the healthy dietary pattern.

PRIOR PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALISATION PREDICTS MORTALITY IN PATIENTS HOSPITALISED WITH NON-CARDIAC CHEST PAIN: A DATA LINKAGE STUDY BASED ON THE FULL SCOTTISH POPULATION (1991–2006)

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Introduction Non-cardiac chest pain (NCCP) is considered a benign condition, associated with a low mortality rate. Contemporary population base studies describing outcomes in NCCP are lacking however. To our knowledge, the relationship between psychiatric disorders and survival in patients with NCCP has not been investigated. This data linkage study investigated case-fatality following a first hospitalisation for NCCP and examined the effect of a previous psychiatric hospitalisation on short-term all-cause and CVD specific mortality.

Methods A population-based retrospective cohort study of 159 888 patients discharged from hospital in Scotland (1991–2006) following a first hospitalisation for NCCP using routinely collected hospital morbidity and mortality data. All-cause and cardiovascular disease (CVD) mortality at 1 year following hospitalisation was examined.

Results 4.4% (3514) of men and 3.9% (3136) of women with a first NCCP hospitalisation had a psychiatric hospitalisation in the 10 years preceding incident NCCP hospitalisation; those with a previous psychiatric hospitalisation were younger and more socio-economically deprived (SED). Crude case-fatality at 1 year was higher in patients with a previous psychiatric hospitalisation compared to those without (men 6.5% vs 4.3%; women 5.4% vs 3.6%), in all age groups and all SED quintiles. Following adjustment (year of NCCP hospitalisation and SED), the hazard of all-cause and CVD-specific mortality at 1 year was higher in men and women with a previous psychiatric hospitalisation, and inversely related to age.

Conclusions Previous psychiatric hospitalisation should be considered in the risk stratification of patients discharged from hospital with a diagnosis of NCCP. Cardiovascular prevention strategies should target this hard to reach group.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AND HYPERTENSION AMONG 105 180 ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE NETHERLANDS

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Objective To determine the relationship between post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and hypertension among asylum seekers in the Netherlands.

Methods Data were obtained from the Dutch national electronic database of the Community Health Services for Asylum Seekers (MOA) from 2000 to 2008. Asylum seekers aged ≥18 years at arrival in the reception facilities were included in this study (N=105 180). The diagnosis of hypertension was coded according to the Dutch list of the International Classification of Primary Care, while PTSD was...