

Requirements of geriatric population for Emergency Medicine Department of The County of Split-Dalmatia in year before Covid-19 pandemic and in year of Covid-19 pandemic

Potrebe gerijatrijske populacije za Zavodom za hitnu medicinu Splitsko-dalmatinske županije u godini prije pandemije Covid-19 i u godini pandemije Covid-19

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Objective: The aim of this paper is to explore the frequency of requirements of geriatric population for Emergency Medicine Department of SDC from the perspective of diagnosis in year before COVID-19 pandemic and in year of COVID-19 pandemic.

Materials and methods: This retrospective study included all patients treated at the Emergency Medicine Department from February 2019 to February 2021. Data on age, sex and diagnosis of patients by ICD-10 classification were collected from medical software „e-Hitna“.

Results: The need for medical interventions in Emergency Medicine Department of SDC is reduced by 23,45% in year 2020. compared to 2019. It was determined by this study that the decrease in the number of interventions is statistically significant ($\chi^2=1492,72$; $P<0,001$). The decrease in the number of patients is determined in both sexes and among all age groups. By ICD-10 classification, the number of all diagnostic needs has been reduced, except U00-U99 where the increase from 0 to 584 patients is determined and G00-G99 where no statistically significant change has occurred ($\chi^2=1,29$; $P=0,257$). Largest decrease has appeared in group V01-V99 where diagnostic needs didn't occur at all in year 2020. as opposed to 2019.

Conclusions: The need for medical interventions in Emergency Medicine Department of SDC has changed in the given period before and during pandemic. Number of male patients is reduced by 20,7% and female patients by 26,2% in year of pandemic as opposed to year before. Among all age groups (65-74, 75-84, 85 and older), the largest decrease has occurred in age group 65-74. By ICD-10 classification, the number of diagnostic needs has decreased in all diagnosis groups in the year 2020. as opposed to 2019., except group U00-U99 where the increase of 584 patients has occurred.

L I T E R A T U R E

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