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## Stigmatisation and Self-Stigmatisation of Patients with Mental Disorders Committed Suicide **Attempts**

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## **Background & Hypothesis:**

This study aims to determine clinical characteristics of stigmatisation and self-stigmatisation of patients who committed suicide attempts on the basis of "mental illness" and "suicide".

## **Methods:**

We examined a sample of 125 patients committing suicide attempts (2.3 per 1 patient), 61 patients with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder (the first group) and also 64 patients with personality disorder, dysthymia, and adjustment disorder (the second group) using by the clinicalpsychopathological and psychometric methods.

#### **Results:**

In the first group patients were evaluated stigmatising attitudes because of a suicide attempt on the part of friends in 46.9% – females in 52.2%, and men in 34.7% (P < 0.05). The level of discrimination due to mental disorder was estimated as 44.5%; in females – 52.1% and male – 27.8% (P < 0.01). In the second group, stigmatising attitudes because of suicide attempt patients were evaluated in 50.9%, and due to mental disorder – in 29.5% (P < 0.001). Their own negative experience of discrimination because of suicide attempt and mental disorder, patients evaluated the same (respectively 33.5% and 28.5%). In the first group, the level of discomfort due to a suicide attempt patients is estimated as 31.8%, and due to mental illness – as 36.7% (females – 42.6% and male – 23.7% [P < 0.05]). In the second group, respectively, as 46% and 41.4% (without gender distinction).

## **Discussion & Conclusion:**

The stigmatising value of suicide attempt and mental illness is high in both groups, but in case of psychotic mental disorders, the stigmatising value of mental illness is higher. Females experienced stigma heavier than male patients.