

NEWSLETTER 01-02-08

USING THE KENNEDY AXIS V
(K AXIS) TO TRACK RISK OF
SELF HARM

SOURCE

XXIV World Congress - IASP
(International Association for
Suicide Prevention)

Presented in 2007

TITLE

Effectiveness of Inpatient
Treatment for Reduction of
Self Harm Risk in Affective
and Personality Disorders.

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BACKGROUND

Psychiatric hospitalization is
still a necessary therapeutic
option for severely
depressed patients and for
cluster B personality
disorders (borderline,
Narcissistic, histrionic),
especially when self harm
ideation is present.

**OBJECTIVE AND STUDY
DESIGN**

The aim of this study was
to evaluate the effectiveness
of inpatient treatment for
depression and personality
disorders in an Italian Private
Hospital (Casa di Cura Villa
Igea, Modena, Italy) using
the Italian version of CORE-
OM (Evans et al, 2002)
and Kennedy Axis V (Kennedy
2003), which were
administered at admission
and discharge. Fifty patients
with affective disorders,
personality disorders and
alcohol misuse, admitted to
an open psychiatric ward,
were recruited for the study.

INTERVENTION

The treatment, which lasted
on average for one month,
consisted of cognitive group
therapy, individual cognitive
psychotherapy, family
therapy, medication and
post-discharge treatment
planning.

FINDINGS

There was a statistically
significant improvement of
CORE-OM and Kennedy Axis V
scores at discharge for most
of the patients. In particular
risk scores were significantly
reduced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Utilization of inpatient
treatment with outcome
[built in as a part of the]
routine evaluation can be
a very useful step in the
treatment of severe
affective disorders and
personality disorders with
self harm behavioral risk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE
APPRECIATED

We would appreciate
feedback (Letters/Emails to
the Editor) on this study of
risk of self harm. We are also
interested in feedback from
other clinicians using the
Kennedy Axis V to track the
risk of harm to self or
others.

PS - Please click on "Reply"
to this email to enter your
Letter to the Editor or send
your email separately to Dr.
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Best Wishes for the New
Year,

The Staff at KennedyMD.com

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