

USE OF DIRECT COERCIVE MEASURES ON THE EXAMPLE OF PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL IN WROCLAW (POLAND)

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AIMS

- 1) to assess the frequency of direct coercive measures in the hospital,
- 2) to assess the main factors predisposing to direct coercion.

Assessment of each situation of use of direct coercion

Tools used to characterise patients:

- The MacArthur Perceived Coercion Scale (MPCS),
- Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS),
- Global Assessment of Functioning Scale (GAF),
- Client Assessment of Treatment (CAT),
- Manchester Short Assessment of Quality of Life (MANSA)
- additional questionnaires on basic data.



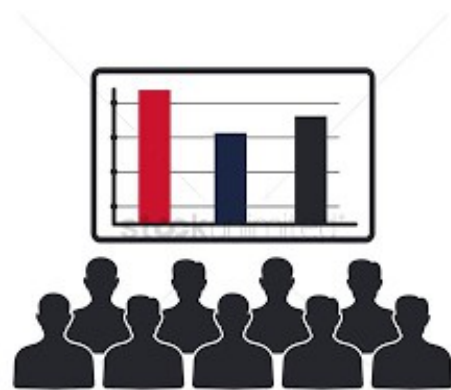
Inclusion criteria:

- feeling a sense of coercion (minimum 3 affirmative answers in MPCS)
- or hospitalisation without consent,
- or use of direct coercion during hospitalisation

Exclusion criteria:

- re-hospitalization during the study period

Finally 346 patients were enrolled in the study of which 237 were interviewed in person



RESULTS

- direct coercion = applied **295 times** against **173 patients**
- the rate of use of direct coercion = almost **21%** in relation to all patients
- domination of **mechanical restraint** (80% of all episodes of coercion)

Statistically significant difference (p = 0.029) between wards.

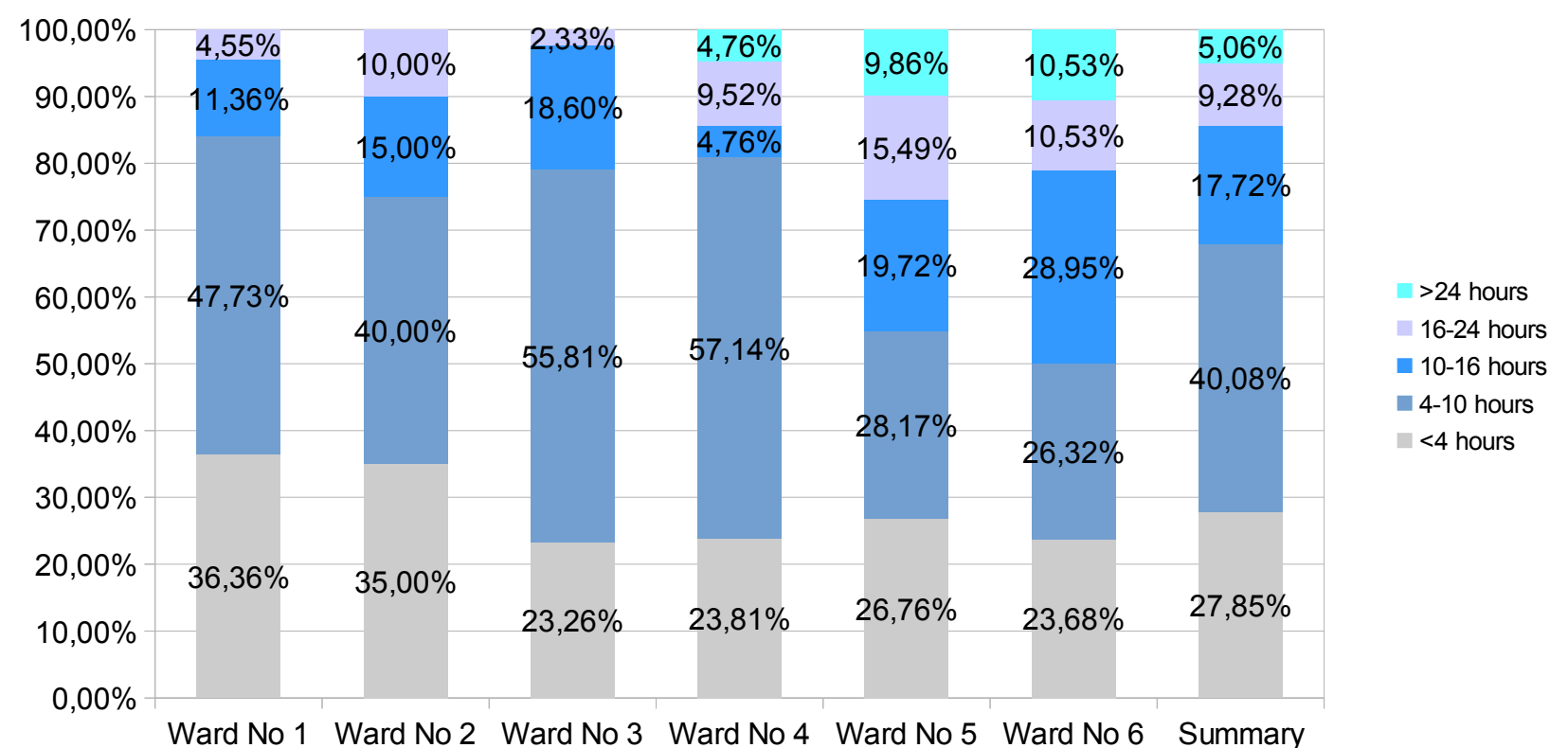
Significantly higher value of duration of coercion in the only ward which contains judicial sub-unit with a basic degree of security

A higher risk of direct coercion:

- admission under Articles 22.2a or 24.1 of Polish Mental Health Act (p=0,002);
- the use of direct coercion during earlier hospitalisations (p=0,000);
- severity of symptoms examined using the BPRS (p=0,000);
- lower functioning measured using the GAF(p=0,020).

A lower risk of direct coercion:

- admission under Article 29 of Polish Mental Health Act (p=0,002).



Percentage distribution of time periods of mechanical restraint in individual wards.



CONCLUSIONS

The psychiatric hospital in Wroclaw is characterised by relatively higher rates of direct coercion in comparison to national surveys.

There are risk factors which should be taken into consideration in case of admission to psychiatric hospita