Fatal Poisonings in the Toxicology Clinic of Emergency University Hospital “N.I.Pirogov” for the period 2009 – 2011
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Objective
- To study the hospital lethality from acute exogenous intoxications in the Toxicology Clinic – Department for adults, of Emergency University Hospital "N.I.Pirogov", Sofia, Bulgaria for 3 years period - 2009-2011.

Methods
- The records of the Toxicology Clinic, Department for adults, Emergency University Hospital “N.I.Pirogov” were reviewed retrospectively for all poisonings during a 3 year period - from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011.
- The fatal cases are analyzed with regard to gender, age and type of poisoning.
- The main reasons for the unfavourable outcome as well as the measures for diminishing of hospital lethality are analyzed.

Results
- A total of 2928 patients with acute poisonings have been hospitalized in the Toxicology Clinic for the studied period, and with fatal outcome were 44 patients.
  - Hospital lethality was 1.50 % for the studied period.
  - In the separate years of the study it was respectively:
    - 0.59 % in 2009,
    - 2.79% in 2010,
    - 1.27 % in 2011.

Results
- Mortality was higher in men, 56.8 % were males, 43.2% - female (Fig.2).

Results
- The most frequent agents causing death were found to be
  - toxic alcohols – 34.09 %, (methanol especially – 25%),
  - pharmaceutical agents – 27.27 %,
  - corrosive substances – 11.36%,
  - others (carbon monoxide, opiates, Amanita Phalloides mushrooms) – 27.27 %.

Results
- The most frequently detected medicinal products in fatal poisonings are:
  - benzodiazepines,
  - antidepressants and
  - antihypertensives,
  - very often these are combined with alcohol as well.

Conclusion
- The analysis of the data and the structure of the poisonings with fatal outcome revealed that for the studied period of time hospital lethality is a stable indicator with very little variations throughout the years.
- There was a clear relationship between a fatal outcome and a delay between ingestion and medical support.