ACUTE INTOXICATION ADMITTED TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF THE CHU OF SÉTIF (EAST-ALGERIA): PERIOD FROM JANUARY 2016 TO MARCH 2017

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Abstract - Acute intoxications in Algeria are very little evaluated, as evidenced by the few publications in this area. To better understand this problem, we conducted a retrospective study in the region of Setif (East Algeria) over a period of one year and 03 months, from January 1, 2016 to March 2017. Its objective was to know the number and the types of cases of intoxication treated, their distribution according to sex and age of patients, as well as the type of toxic agents involved and intentionality. During the study period, the emergency department of the CHU of Setif had notified 500 cases of acute intoxications, with an age ranging from 02 months to 86 years. The high incidence was recorded with the age group of 16 to 25 years, with 145 cases, or 29%. The female predominance was clear, with a percentage of 61.60%, or 308 cases of intoxication. The highest frequencies of poisoning were recorded in urban and peri-urban areas respectively with 407 cases, or 81.4%, and 45 cases, or 9%. Drug intoxication recorded the highest number of reports in the region, with 202 cases, or 41.8%, followed by 183 cases of carbon monoxide poisoning, or 37.8%, and 40 cases of poisoning by caustic products, 8.2%, respectively. In order to reduce the incidence of these accidental and voluntary acute intoxications, prevention and improvement of socio-economic conditions remain the treatment of choice.

Keywords - Acute Intoxications, Emergency Department, Epidemiology, Sétif (East-Algeria).