

INCIDENCE AND PREVALENCE OF MENTAL RETARDATION IN CHILDREN AGED 1-18, IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

M. Kaeva-Pejkovska¹, Z. Gucev²

¹Institute of Mental Health of Children and Adolescents 'Mladost'

²Faculty of Medicine, University Children's Hospital, Skopje, Macedonia

j.pejkovski@sobranie.mk

INTRODUCTION: A survey of the epidemiological aspects of mental retardation in children aged 1-18 was carried out in Macedonia. GOALS: Calculations of incidence and prevalence rate of mental retardation, analysis of the etiological aspects of MR. MATERIAL AND METHODS: The study is based on the collection of 3.671 juveniles in 1998, on 3.753 in 1999 and on 3.775 in the year 2000. Also the categorization of the juvenile persons was realized. RESULTS: The average rate of prevalence of the mental retardation per year in the Republic of Macedonia is 2,75% in the population until 18 years and 1,67% in the total population of the country for the same period. The prevalence rate for the categorized persons is 1,851‰ per year. The rate of incidence of mental retardation for the same period in the total population of the country is 0,219‰, in the population until 18 years is 0,16%, and for three years period the average rate of 0,48%. The categorization of the persons by type and level of the difficulties in physical and psychical development, by sex, age and place of living was analyzed, and also the genetic aspects of mental retardation. Detailed analyses in the local community by sex, age and place of living were carried out, for each of the four types (mild, moderate, severe, profound) of mental retardation. CONCLUSIONS: The etiological factors of mental retardation were examined and arranged in accordance with the period of genesis (prenatal, perinatal, postnatal and uncertain) and by the type of mental retardation.

