

Violence toward Family of Schizophrenia with Alcohol Drinking Patients

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Abstract

The purpose of this descriptive research was to study the prevalence of violence toward family of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients, characters of violence and consequences of violence perceived by their family members. The sampling group was family members of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients who were admitted to Khon Kaen Rajanagarindra Psychiatric Hospital, Khon Kaen province between May-July 2014. The studied subjects were 96 family members. Research instrument was a reliable questionnaire which was α .89 and tested by Cronbach Alpha Coefficient. The data was analyzed as percentage, average, standard deviation, and 95% of CI. The results were as follows;

The prevalence of violence toward family was 89.6% (95% CI; 0.85 - 0.94) including psychological and emotional violence 89.6% (95% CI; 0.85 - 0.94), financial and property violence 60.4% (95% CI; 0.57 - 0.63), physical violence 47.9% (95% CI; 0.45 - 0.51) and sexual violence 26% (95% CI; 0.09 - 0.21) the most found violent characters were 1) psychological and emotional violence including delusion of jealousy 2) financial and property violence including having a fight against family expenses 3) physical violence including throwing objects 4) sexual violence including raping wives. Wife was abusive the most. The consequences found were 1) divorce found in wives 2) sadness found in mothers 3) suffering married life found in husbands 4) studying problems or bullying behaviors found in children. The results shows that schizophrenia patients who were alcohol drink caused violence and impacts within families, therefore, the family members should have been supported effectively.

Keywords: Violence, Family, Schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients

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Introduction

Schizophrenia is the most common form of psychosis which is reported 1-1.5% of world population, an incidence of 0.1-0.5 per 1,000 person-years, Lifetime prevalence of 7.0-9.0 per 1,000 persons (Manoad Lautrakun, 2007). Schizophrenia is also brain disorder in thinking, perception, emotional expression and behavior (WHO, 2002; cited in Somphorn Rungreaungkonkit, 2006). The symptom is chronic and progressive course. Even some patients were recovered but the symptom still occurred time to time (Manoad Lautrakun and Pramote Sukanit, 2012). Besides the chronic symptoms, schizophrenia may cause by substance abuse and the most common found is alcohol abuse since alcohol is easy to access and legal; therefore, schizophrenia patients tend to abuse alcohol widely (Cuffel, 1996). According to a study on alcohol abuse, it showed that schizophrenia patients had 47% of alcohol abuse more than others (Regier et al., 1990). Further, schizophrenia patients had 40-60% of alcohol abuse (Cantor et al., 2005). In addition, Mallakh (1998) stated that 51% of schizophrenia patients had abused alcohol. The reason of alcohol abuse was to relief the schizophrenia symptoms, reduce side effect of its remedy (Chambers et al., 2001) also to reduce stress and pain (Dixon et al., 1991) and to help thinking, making decision, self-control and having good personality (Mueser et al., 1998).

The violence caused by schizophrenia patients tends to be more violent and harmful according to previous studies; for example, from the study of 1,410 schizophrenia patients' violence level who had substance or alcohol abuse in America, it was found that 29.1% were severe violent, 15.5% were violent and 3.6% were less violent and there was an increase of violence on alcohol abuse as 30% (Swanson et al., 2006). Regarding violence in 8,886 schizophrenia patients who were alcohol abuse in England, Wales, and Scotland, Coid et al. (2006) demonstrated that 12% were violent, 5% were violent when having substance or alcohol abuse and it was found that violence related factor was alcohol abuse. In England, 20% of alcohol abuse schizophrenia patients harm others and 8% of schizophrenia patients who had not abused alcohol harm others (Crebbin et al., 2008). In Sweden, McGrath et al. (2009) found that 25.2% of male who had abused alcohol and had diagnosed as schizophrenia acted violent, 3.6% of male who had not abused alcohol and had diagnosed as schizophrenia acted violent, and alcohol abuse schizophrenia patients acted violent more than schizophrenia patients who had not abused alcohol as 9.5 times.

In America, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland, it was found that 0.3% of alcohol abuse schizophrenia patients were at risk of committing crime where as schizophrenia patients were 0.02% of committing crime (Fazel et al., 2009). In Tunisia, alcohol abuse schizophrenia patients acted violent as 53% and schizophrenia patients acted violent as 13% (Ellouze et al., 2009). In Australia, Dolan et al. (2012) found that schizophrenia patients acted violent as 39.1% and violence related factors were male and alcohol abuse.

Violence toward family is sensitive and related to family members. According to Friends for Women Foundation, violence toward family as physical violence is against women especially wives. There were both 916 reported and unreported case since 2010. 645 male abusers which was 86.23% whereas 86 female abusers. Also there were 653 female victims which was more than male victims as 87.18%.

Characters of violence which wives most encountered was 61.29% of physical violence and 27.54% of emotional violence respectively. Next is relationship between abuser and victim issue. There were 694 violence toward family cases which was 87.08% from 797 reported cases. The most common found was married relationship; it was 479 persons or 71.61%. Further, 97 victims or 89.81% of 108 reported cases were wives (Office of Women's Affairs, 2011). In Thailand, there has been an increase rate of abused victims who are female and children within family. This crisis is in danger as it is dramatically increasing for 35% within a year and 40% was female victims. Violence against women is the most common found in the age of 24-45 years which is 74%. The first violence found was physical violence as 9,699 cases or 77%, and the second was sexual violence as 2,226 cases or 18%. The most abuse victim found was spouse as 53% (United Nations Women, 2013).

Regarding a study on alcohol consumption behavior and violence against women in Khon Kaen province Thailand, it was found that a group of wife whose husbands have abused alcohol and a group of alcohol abuse wives whose husbands also have abused alcohol both were at risk of being harassed violently as 4.27 times and 8.55 times respectively. Moreover, alcohol consuming behavior of wives and husbands caused violence; for instance, they acted violent when they consumed alcohol beverages (Pongdetch Sarakan et al., 2011).

From worldwide studies, the estimation of violence toward family between spouses who had mental problem was 71% (Trevillion et al., 2012). Ayub et al. (2009) studied violence toward family in spouses which husbands had mental disorder in Pakistan and found that those husbands tended to have violence toward family as 64.3%

Consuming alcohol beverages of schizophrenia patients would affect their physical health; Khon Kaen Rajanagarindra Psychiatric Hospital (2011b) found that it affected to the whole body system both acute and chronic. SuanPrung Psychiatric Hospital (2007) also stated that alcohol abuse consequence to psychosocial aspect as schizophrenia patients would lose the jobs, and have worse relationships. Further, their mental health is also getting worse as lacking of responsibility and being dementia. Additionally, the consequence on psychological aspect is the worst which caused female victims terrified, dependent, depressed, or severely worried then isolating and anti-social (Ronnachai Kongsakon and Nareumon Phojam, 2007). Michael et al., 1995 ; Shrestha et al. (1985) found that schizophrenia with alcohol drinking husbands had delusion of jealousy which is a dominant symptom and causes violence against wives. Mullen (1990) stated that husbands who had erectile dysfunction so had delusion of jealousy and it caused physical violence against wives. Violence toward family caused the family members sad, depressed, furious, and unhappy (Supattana Dechatiwong Na Ayutaya, 2007) and the violence also consequence to children as they had physical violence and psychological and emotional violence (Kingham & Gordon., 2004; Kritaya Sawangchareon et al., 2003)

This violence toward family causes conflicts to everyone (Ronnachai Kongsakon and Nareumon Phojam, 2007) which could be counted as major social and public health concerns. We could see from an increasing of schizophrenia, mental disorder, and alcohol abuse incidences in Khon Kaen Rajanagarindra Psychiatric Hospital Thailand, Khon Kaen stated that in 2013 there were 96,213 patients admitted to the hospital; 54,655 patients or 56.8% were male; 41,558 patients or 43.2% were female.

The severe patients admitted were 2,888 and the symptoms found were delusion, violent behavior, and beating others. Schizophrenia is the most diagnosed disorder and there were 1,150 patients; 908 of male and 242 of female or 49.4%, the second was metal and behavioral disorder due to use of alcohol and there were 326 patients; 318 of male and 8 of female or 14.0% finally, the third was bipolar affective disorder and there were 134 patients; 69 of male and 65 of female or 5.8%.

In Thailand, there are not many studies regarding violence of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients even it is the most common found and the patients often return to have a treatment repeatedly. According to the afore mentioned incidence, the researcher would like to portray view of victims who are family members as to study the prevalence of violence toward family of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients, characters of violence and consequences of violence towards family of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients in order to help solving and preventing violence toward family incidence.

Research Methodology

This study was descriptive research. The subjects were family members of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients who were admitted to Khon Kaen Rajanagarindra Psychiatric Hospital Thailand, Khon Kaen province Thailand between May – July 2013. The subjects were employed by will ingness and agreed to complete the questionnaire with normal condition. The 96 persons were answer verbally and were calculated by the follow formula; $n = Z^2_{1-\alpha / 2} P(1- P) / d^2$ (Lwanga,S.K. and Lemeshow, 1990)

Research instrument was a questionnaire divided into 3 parts; 1) personal information, level of alcohol abuse and dominant symptoms, family information and relationship in family which created by the researcher 2) characters of violence which applied from a questionnaire of Kritaya Sawangchareon et al. (2003) 3) consequences of violence which applied from a questionnaire of Kritaya Sawangchareon et al. (2003). The family members would answer by their perceived. This instrument had been done validity content by 5 experts and had been tested the reliability by other 30 family members. This questionnaire employed Cronbach alpha coefficient into account and the α was .89

The researcher collected all data. The subjects were under rights as the researcher declared research objectives, data collecting process, and asked for cooperation in delivering information. Further, the subjects had rights to join or reject in participating. The willing subjects would verbally accept in joining the project. The researcher collected data individually as the subjects read and answered the questionnaire by themselves, but if some subjects could not read or write, the researcher would read the questions and write the answers for the subjects individually. Each subject of non- violence toward family group would spend 5 minute in completing the questionnaire whereas each of violence toward family group would spend 40-50 minute in completing the questionnaire. If violence was found during the session, the subjects were free to talk about it. When the questionnaires completed, there would be medical treatment afterwards. If some needed help consecutively, it would be reported to resident nurses and the researcher also handed informational leaflets to the subjects.

The collected data was analyzed by descriptive statistic as percentage, average, standard deviation and 95% CI

Conclusions

1. General Information and Family Information of Schizophrenia with Alcohol Drinking Patients and Their Family Members

There were 96 of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients which described as 82.5% of male and 17.5% of female. The average age was 36.8 year. There was 52.4 % of married couple. 44.8% was completed grade 6. Most of them were temporary workers as 38.5%. Level of alcohol abuse of schizophrenia patients in 1 year could be described as 53.1% had always abused and dominant symptom was delusion as 65.5%. The 96 subjects who were family members could be stated as 86.3% was female; the average age was 35.2 year. 51.0% was completed grade 6. Most of them were temporary workers as 60.4%. The average family income was 14,911.46 baht per month. Most of them were nuclear family as 52.1%; relationship in family reported as rough sometimes as 50.0%.

Violence against Family Members Perceived by Their Family Members

There were 86 persons of family members who encountered violence toward family. The prevalence of violence toward family was 89.6% (95% CI; 0.85 - 0.94). These schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients characters to their family including psychological and emotional violence the most for 86 persons or 89.6% (95% CI; 0.85 - 0.94), financial and property violence for 58 persons or 60.4% (95% CI; 0.57 - 0.63), physical violence for 46 persons or 47.9 (95% CI; 0.45 - 0.51) and the last was sexual violence for 25 persons or 26% (95% CI; 0.09 - 0.21) as described in Table 1.

Table 1 characters of violence and percentage of each violence perceived by their family members

characters of violence	Persons	%
Non-violence found	10	10.4
Violence found (at least 1 character)	86	89.6
Physical violence	46	47.9
Psychological and emotional violence	86	89.6
Financial and property violence	58	60.4
Sexual violence	25	26.0

2. Characters of Violence Perceived by Their Family Members

The most common found was 1) psychological and emotional violence including 83.3% of delusion of jealousy, 50.0% of quarrelling and 47.9% of being sarcastic. Wife was abusive the most. 2) financial and property violence including 54.2% of having of daily expenses, 45.8% of spending other personal income and 25.0% of stealing other money to gamble or alcohol abuse. Mother was abusive the most. 3) physical violence including 47.9% of throwing objects, 33.3% of hitting, beating, or

kicking and 12.5% of beating with object or weapon to injury. Wife was abusive the most. 4) sexual violence including 26.0% of raping, 19.8% of being mad when it was not on demand and 9.4% of forcing to have sex. Wife was abusive the most.

3. Consequences of Violence Perceived by Their Family Members

The members realized that there were consequences of violence as 64.6% toward wives asking for divorce, 52.1% toward mothers felt sadness, 33.3% toward husbands were unhappy in married life and 16.7% toward children studying problems or bullying behavior as described in Table 2.

Table2 consequences of violence and percentage of each violence perceived by their family members

consequences of violence toward family	persons	%
1. wives	62	64.6
2. mothers	50	52.1
3. husbands	32	33.3
4. children	16	16.7

Discussion

1. Violence toward Family of Schizophrenia with Alcohol Drinking Patients Perceived by Their Family Members

It was found that schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients acted violent against the members as 89.6% (95% CI; 0.85 - 0.94) or 86 persons which is frequent found and this is more than the result of Ellouze et al. (2009) who studied about violence in families which husbands were schizophrenia patients in Tunisian hospital. From the comparison of 30 schizophrenia patients who acted violent and 30 schizophrenia patients who did not act violent, it showed that 53% of violent act from schizophrenia with alcohol abuse husbands. This might be because the population of the study did not focus on schizophrenia with alcohol abuse patients but all schizophrenia patients and the 2 groups were different in culture aspect.

Michael et al. (1995) study that schizophrenia with alcohol abuse patients had an influence on psychological and emotional violence as 89.6%, financial and property violence as 60.4%, and physical violence as 47.9% respectively since family members are very close and have to take care of patients so it might cause severe abuses to the members easily (Cobb, 1979). In terms of abuse experience, the members often encountered severe physical violence (Mullen & Maack., 1985) and there were bruises, cuts, or even severe injuries. They also felt angry, paranoid, or terrified (Heckert & Gondolf., 2000).

2. Characters of Violence Perceived by Their Family Members

The most common found was 1) psychological and emotional violence including 83.3% of delusion of jealousy which is a dominant symptom and causes violence against wives. (Michael et al., 1995; Shrestha et al., 1985), Erectile dysfunctional so

had delusion of jealousy and it caused physical violence against wives (Mullen, 1990), 50.0% of quarrelling and 47.9% of being sarcastic 2) financial and property violence including 54.2% of having fights because of daily expenses, 45.8% of spending other's personal income and 25.0% of stealing others money to gamble or alcohol abuse 3) physical violence including 47.9% of throwing objects, 33.3% of hitting, beating, or kicking and 12.5% of beating with object or weapon to injure 4) sexual violence including 26.0% of raping, 19.8% of being mad when it was not on demand and 9.4% of forcing to have sex.

3. Consequences of Violence Perceived by Their Family Members

The consequences were found in wives, mothers, husbands and children as follow; First of all, wives would like to get divorced, be sad, and be unhappy as 64.6%, 62.5, and 60.4% respectively and this is relating to a study of metal consequences of physical violence wives which stated that most victims were terrified, dependent, being obsessive-compulsive disorder, worried, aggressive, or depress (Siripetch Siriwattana, 1995). Nitchawan Weerawattanodome (1997) study that 15-44 year female patients in Chainat Hospital Thailand, Chinat province Thailand faced of metal consequences of psychological and emotional violence such as 100% of feeling sad and 98.8% of having bruises. Children also encountered violence as studying problems/bullying/bad behavior, being sad and being beaten which was 33.3%, 16.7% and 1.0% respectively. Kritaya Sawangchareon et al. (2003) also stated that the victims might cause cycle of violence as the children who faced of metal consequences of violence toward family would abuse their own family as intergenerational transmission of violence.

In regarding to the afore mentioned studies, each family had perceived violence toward family differently. Delusion of jealousy is the most common dominant symptom found in schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients. The most violence found in mothers percept is economic abuse which is quarrelling about getting money to buy alcohol beverages. The most abuse found in husbands view is unhappy married life. Last abuse found in wives percept is raping which is directly against wives. In the same way of psychological and emotional violence, family members felt guilty, worried, bored and unhappy (Siripetch Siriwattana, 1995 and Heckert & Gondolf, 2000). These accounts of incident might be different but violence toward family has worsen physical and mental health of the family members, hence, taking care of schizophrenia with alcohol drinking patients must be concerned about violence toward family as well.

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