## Abstract

Introduction: Poisoning is one of the common causes of hospital emergency department referrals, especially in adolescents and young people; therefore, knowing the pattern of poisoning will be helpful in identifying risk factors and early detection of poisoning.

Objective: The aim of this study was to investigate the epidemiology of acute poisoning in adults referred to Imam Khomeini Hospital in Ardabil from 2017 to 2017.

Method: In this descriptive-analytical and retrospective study, 755 cases related to poisoned patients referred to Imam Khomeini Hospital in Ardabil from 1396 to 1398 were reviewed. The extracted data included ward, gender, age, marital status, place of residence, general status, cause of poisoning, cause of poisoning and time of referral, which were recorded in the checklist. Data obtained by Chi-square test were analyzed by SPSS25 software.

Results: The results showed that drug poisoning with opium (opium and its derivatives) and pesticides were the first to third ranks of the most poisoning agents. Most of the poisoned patients were male, married, in the age group of 21 to 30 and living in urban areas. Most of the poisonings were intentional and 33 deaths (4.4%) due to poisonings. Opium (39.4%) and phosphide tablets (36.4%) were the cause of 75.8% of deaths due to poisoning. The cause of poisoning was significantly related to age, sex, marriage, place of residence, and the cause of poisoning in patients. But it had no significant relationship with the general condition and time of patients' referral.

Conclusion: The results show that the three causes of drug poisoning, opium and pesticides are the main causes of poisoning. Aluminum phosphide tablet poisoning is one of the main causes of poisoning. People between the ages of 21 and 30 are also most exposed to poisoning. Intentional poisoning was more common in married people than in single people.

Keywords: poisoning, medicine, opium, pesticide, Ardabil.