

## **Drug Poisoning Resulting in Low Level of Consciousness in Patients with Suicidal Attack History in Comparison with Others**

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**Introduction :** One of the limitations of management of patients suffering from decrease level of consciousness due to drug poisoning is inability to interview. The aim of this study was comparison of characteristics of two subgroups of these patients; those who had suicidal attempt history with others. **Methods :** In this case- control study, among patients who admitted for drug poisoning to Loghman hospital in Tehran in April and May 2008, 19 patients with suicidal attempt history and 66 patients without this history were consecutively selected. At admission time, all participants had decreased level of consciousness due to unknown drug poisoning. Demographic and poisoning characteristics, past medical history and substance use history were recorded. **Results :** Suicidal attempt history had significant association with type of drugs led to poisoning ( $p=0.04$ ). Psychological disorder history ( $p<0.01$ ), intentional poisoning ( $p<0.01$ ), level of consciousness impairment ( $p=0.04$ ), advance emergency care need ( $p=0.01$ ), not improving level of consciousness after emergency care ( $p=0.02$ ) and time interval between drug use and admission to the medical centers ( $p=0.02$ ) in suicidal attempt history group was significantly higher than others. There was no significant difference in age between groups ( $p>0.05$ ). Also suicidal attempt history had no significant association with sex and history of illicit substance use ( $p>0.05$ ). **Conclusion :** According to these findings, in patients suffering from decrease level of consciousness due to drug poisoning, there are prominent differences in treatment needs and also recovering consciousness level between patients with suicidal attempt history and patients with no such history. Hence, attention to special characteristics of these patients can help us in determination of more effective treatment options to them.