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Crime, re-offense and substance abuse of patients with severe mental disorder

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There are clinical variables related to severe violence by mentally ill as hostility, behavior influenced by the hallucinatory activity, grandiosity- with unrealistic belief of superiority, the delirious activity of suspicion/persecution and accelerated motor behavior hyperactivity, highly responsive to stimuli and hyperarousal or excessive instability. Other important factors to match, when we address violence committed by these patients are substance abuse, premorbid personality and ecological problems, namely, the quality of life in the family. Falk et al. concluded that persistent violence was associated with male gender, personality disorder, convicted of a violent crime before the age of 19, offenses related to drugs, non-violent crime, substance use and mental disorder. The decrease in consumption of substances is very important when we want to prevent criminal recidivism of these patients even when patients are set free after serving a safety measure for a crime they have committed. In order to prevent criminal recidivism when they were released, we implemented a psychiatric care intervention with these patients.

Biography

José Fernando Santos Almeida is a Psychiatrist and completed his PhD from Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar (Universidade do Porto). He is a Professor and President of Scientific Council of Instituto Universitário da Maia and Editor-Chief of *Psiquiatria, Psicologia & Justiça*.

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