

# Munchausen syndrome – case report

HARIS BEŠIREVIĆ<sup>1</sup>, SEAD ČAUŠEVIĆ<sup>1</sup>, EDVINA IBRADŽIĆ<sup>2</sup>, SINHAD GOLUBOVIĆ<sup>1</sup>, SAMRA PAJAZETOVIĆ<sup>3</sup>, SEMRA PAJAZETOVIĆ<sup>3</sup>, AIDA ŠEHANOVIĆ<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>UNIVERSITY OF TUZLA, FACULTY OF MEDICINE, TUZLA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

<sup>2</sup>UNIVERSITY OF TUZLA, FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS, DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY, TUZLA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

<sup>3</sup>HEALTH CENTER VELIKA KLADUŠA, DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE, VELIKA KLADUŠA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

<sup>4</sup>HEALTH CENTER TUZLA, CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH, TUZLA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

besirevic\_haris89@msn.com

**INTRODUCTION:** Munchausen syndrome is a subclass factitious disorder wherein those affected feign disease, illness, or psychological trauma to draw attention to themselves. It is also sometimes known as hospital addiction syndrome. Syndrome shows predominantly physical signs and symptoms, but patients also have a history of recurrent hospitalization and dramatic, untrue, and extremely improbable tales of their past experiences.

**CASE REPORT:** Man (29) examined by a psychiatrist, as recommended by urologist. Two years ago patient came to a urologist because of pain in the testicle. In 2014 he had varicocele surgery. Since then he still has complaints like pains, swelling of the testicles, and that his urine and sperm contains blood and that they have strange smell. Biochemical analysis were normal. To patient were made CT and MRI of the pelvis, which also were normal. However, the patient continued to seek medical care and attention and looking for additional findings, but they were also normal. Than he shows dissatisfaction. Patient refuses treatment by a psychiatrist, because he can't help him. In the examination he constantly is seeking for re-hospitalization.

**DISCUSSION:** The exact incidence of Münchhausen's syndrome is not known. A survey of 106 hospital doctors in Germany estimated an incidence of factitious disorder of 1.3%. Studies suggest that up to 9% of hospitalised patients have a factitious disorder. 9.3% of patients presenting with fever of unknown origin were found in one study to be suffering from Münchhausen's syndrome. Patients are more commonly male, and their aged 30-50.

**CONCLUSION:** This chronic disorder is very difficult to completely cure. The infected person refuses treatment of this syndrome and when he feels he has discovered, than most often he goes to another health facility. The aim of psychotherapy is to change the habits and behavior of patient, and treatment outcome is very uncertain.

**Keywords:** Munchausen syndrome, factitious disorder, chronic disorder, psychological trauma

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