

## **Specific Characteristics and Prevalence of Mental Disorders in Oncological Diseases of the Lung and Gastrointestinal Tract**

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**Abstract:** Mental disorders are more common in cancer patients than other somatic diseases, which reduces their flexibility and the quality of rehabilitation. The article describes the clinical characteristics of mental disorders in patients with various oncological diseases (lung, gastrointestinal tract cancer).

**Keywords:** Depression, organic disorders, mental disorders, hypochondria, anxiety, panic, agitation.

Dolzarbligi (Global Cancer Observatory) According to Globocan, an interactive web-based cancer statistics platform, 8.2 million people worldwide die from cancer every year [2]. In 2016, 599,348 oncological diseases were detected in the Russian Federation, which is an increase of 1.7% compared to 2015 [5]. of tumors [17]. Although cancer control programs are being established, cancer continues to be among the top five worldwide with lung, colon, and stomach cancer [3]. Thus, oncological diseases cause fear of death, disability, pain and helplessness among the population, serious psychological problems that can lead to psychological stress, long and severe mental disorders, personality changes and even suicide. In oncological pathology, adjustment disorder is often observed (up to 68% among respondents) and clinical depression (up to 13%) [8]. Anxiety and depressive disorders are usually more common in cancer patients than in their peers[9]. The etiology and pathogenesis of malignant tumors are not well understood. The hypothesis that psychosocial, immune or endocrine mechanisms can be determined, through which emotional factors can affect the growth or reduction of a possible tumor, has been discussed several times in the literature. In addition, many authors have expressed the opinion that mental disorders, in turn, affect the development of cancer [7, 12, 13, 14, 15]. Almost half of cancer patients suffer from postoperative depression or other psychological disorders. reports that difficulties are alleviated after several months in most cases [16]. Patients with lung cancer are characterized by severe anxiety, asthenia, and fear. In stomach and intestinal cancer, severe hypochondria can be observed [12].

**OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH**: Study of clinical and psychopathological characteristics of patients diagnosed with cancer of different localization (gastrointestinal tract, lung cancer).

MATERIALS AND METHODS: 56 patients, 32 of them male and 24 female, with malignant tumors of certain localization (lung, stomach, sigmoid, colon and rectum) were taken for observation. The age of the examined patients ranged from 28 to 76 years, the average age of the patients was  $56.2\pm1.5$  years. The study included patients in the thoracic-abdominal surgery department. The following methods were used in the work: clinical-psychopathological examination, clinical-psychological examination Hamilton depression scale (HADS-21) [18]. Statistical package "Statistica v.6.0" was used for data processing.

**Results**. The following distribution of patients according to nosological structure was obtained: adjustment disorder (20% of cases), affective disorders (11%), organic mental disorders (15%), prenosological disorders (54%). The severity of depression assessed by the Hamilton Depression Scale was compared in patients with the following diagnoses: adjustment disorder (13.3  $\pm$  1.1 points), affective disorders (12.8  $\pm$  2.2 points), organic disorders (11 .3  $\pm$  1.5 points) (p>0.05), but it was statistically significantly more accurate compared to patients with prenosological disorders (6.3 $\pm$ 0.4, p<0.05). It was found that patients diagnosed with colon cancer had more frequent prenozological

diseases than other groups. The article discusses psychotherapeutic and psychopharmacological studies of mental disorders observed for each type of oncological nosology. The distribution of patients with oncological disorders according to adaptation, affective disorders, organic mental disorders, and prenosological disorders depending on the localization of oncopathology is presented in Table 1.

## Distribution of mental disorders according to nosological structure in patients with various oncological pathologies. Table 1

	Stomach Cancer%	LUNG CANCER%	Colon cancer %	Total %
Adjustment disorder	8 (33.3%)	2 (12.5%)	3 (16.7%)	9 (20%)
Affective disorders	7 (8.3%)	2 (12.5%)	2 (11.1%)	5 (11%)
Mental organic disorders	2 (16.7%)	3 (18.7%)	2 (11.1%)	7 (15%)
Pre-morbid mental disorders	5 (41.7%)	9 (56.25%)	11 (61.1%)	25 (54%)
Total:	22 (100%)	16 (100%)	18 (100%)	56(100%)

The largest number in the study sample was in patients with prenozological diseases, their volume share was 54.35% (n=25). In terms of the frequency of development, patients with affective disorders were the smallest group (11% - n = 5). A brief description of mental disorders was found in patients with the following oncopathology. Clinically, prenozological disorders were manifested with milder symptoms than diagnosed patients. This group included 25 people (18 men and 7 women) with prenozological diseases (asthenic variant with a predominance of mental diseases). Weakness was detected in 15 people, asthenic variant with predominant physical weakness - in 8 people, somatovegetative variant – in 2 people). In the asthenic variant of the prenozological disorder, where mental weakness prevails, patients, as a rule, complained of apathy and fatigue. Asthenic variant, where physical weakness prevailed, was characterized by tears, emotional instability. When going to sleep, fatigue, the desire to rest, sit or lie down during the day, the somatovegetative variant is expressed by periodic headaches, unexpected anxiety, a feeling of restlessness, general heaviness in the body. - decreased within 4 weeks. Adjustment disorder in patients with oncological pathology was characterized by low mood, anxiety, obsessive thoughts about serious illness, life-threatening consequences. Patients "cannot survive the operation", believe that the upcoming treatment will be "ineffective and only cause pain and suffering". These thoughts are painful, they prevent patients from focusing on something else, from some useful or pleasant activity. In addition, patients with adjustment disorders are associated with feelings of helplessness in the face of the current situation and reduced performance. Among the examined patients, adjustment disorder was found in 19 people (18 women and 1 man diagnosed with lung cancer). In 18 women with adjustment disorders, oncological pathology was distributed as follows: lung cancer - 6 people, intestinal cancer - 2 people, stomach cancer - 10 people. Patients are worried about the next inevitable changes in their social status, the need to register in disability groups, and notice the financial difficulties that arise in this case. In addition, family and personal conflicts intensify, even suicidal thoughts appear, however, adjustment disorders are not always associated with the diagnosis of cancer in some patients, several traumatic situations or a psychotraumatic situation (loss of a loved one,unwanted retirement, moving to another city, etc.)

Affective disorders:Depressive manifestations in this group of patients developed with the deepening and strengthening of the oncological disease. Anxiety was more characteristic of acute illness and depression was characteristic of long-term cancer patients. The following affective disorders were diagnosed: mild to moderate depressive episode without psychotic symptoms (2 people), dysthymia (2 people), hypomania (1 person) Dysthymia is long-term low mood, fatigue, occasional sleep disturbances, characterized by carelessness, slight irritability and general weakness. At the same time, patients tried to hide their mood and make a good impression on others. A 30-year-old man was diagnosed with hypomania with a diagnosis of rectal cancer. The patient spoke in detail, actively gestured, spoke quickly, expressed confidence that "everything is great" with him, randomly switching

from one topic to another, elevated mood, not sleeping well at night, sleeping late, waking up early One of the reasons for a sad and depressed mood after surgery for oncological pathology can be associated with painful experiences, for example, a disorder, the removal of a damaged organ or the unsuccessful result of an operation, which is still psychologically re- not worked. The inability to process existing negative information can lead to the formation of psychopathological symptoms such as hopelessness, apathy, insomnia, loss of appetite, return to children's protective reactions, actualization of suicidal behavior. With these disorders, crisis psychotherapy is indicated. It is discussed in complex psychotherapy that the early postoperative period increases the effectiveness of treatment [10].

Organic disorders: The following organic disorders were identified in the examined sample of patients: organic depressive disorder (n=3) and organic emotionally labile asthenic disorder (n=4), cerebral circulation caused by an acute event (n = 3), brain injury (n = 2). In addition, it is necessary to take into account the development or deterioration of organic diseases against the background of toxic effects of chemotherapy and radiotherapy in oncology patients (n=2). Typical manifestations of organic depressive disorder were observed, such as a constant decrease in mood, a feeling of guilt, and a depressive disorder in the form of loss of interests., feeling of fatigue and weakness, poor sleep and appetite were found. In one case, the patient expressed suicidal thoughts. Organic asthenic disorders are characterized by emotional lability, irritability and even some rudeness, flatness in judgments, and physical fatigue. It was necessary to reduce the severity of asthenic and algic symptoms and cognitive impairment in patients with organic diseases [11]. The most important indicators for the person to emphasize are the sub-items of this scale) and the option of mental disorder was determined.

(Table 2) Indicators on the Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HADS-21) in patients with various psychopathologies

Hamilton's assessment of this	Adjustment disorder	Affective disorders	Mental organic disorders	Mental disorders leading to illness
Average overall score	13.3+1.1	12.8+2.2	11.3=1.5	6.3=0.4
Low mood	1.3=0.2	2.0=0.5	1.0=0.4	0.6=0.1
Guilt	0.9=0.4	1.4=0.4	1.0=0.4	0.4=0.1
Early insomnia	0.9=0.1	0.6=0.3	0.7=0.2	0.7=0.1
Mental anxiety	1.1=0.3	1.0=0.0	0.9=0.1	0.6=0.1

Statistically significant data were found when comparing data on the HADS 21 scale in patients with different mental pathologies. It is obtained only when comparing prenozological disorders with mental disorders (p<0.05). No statistically significant differences were found in the group of mental disorders (p>0.05). At the same time, there is a tendency to increase current depressive symptoms in adjustment disorders due to sleep disorders and mental disturbances. It should be noted that the indicators for separate subsections are scales) depending on the localization of oncological pathology (stomach, intestinal cancer, lung)

Table 3

Hamiltonian evaluation	Stomach cancer	Rak kishechnika	Cancer legkix
Average overall score	10.5±1.0	8.6±1.1	9.0±1.3
Low mood	1.4±0.2	0.7±0.2	0.9±0.3
Guilt	1.2±0.3	0.6±0.2	0.5±0.2
Early insomnia	0.7±0.1	0.8±0.1	0.7±0.1
Decrease in working capacity	0.4±0.2	0.4±0.1	0.8±0.2

Stiffness	0.3±0.2	0.3±0.1	0.7±0.2
Agitation	0.8±0.2	0.9±0.2	0.5±0.1
Mental anxiety	0.9±0.2	0.8±0.1	0.6±0.1

Statistically significant differences were found when comparing oncological diagnoses (p>0.05), but there is a tendency for depression to increase in cancer patients. However, we found a high level of depression in patients with stomach cancer due to the emergence of feelings of guilt and mental anxiety. along with pathological reactions, we observed symptoms of simple emotional reactions to the news of a cancer diagnosis: rejection, irritation, acceptance disappointment, anxious reactions, panic and excessive guilt. In addition, patients were worried about the future, fear of death, It was found that there are feelings of hopelessness, anxiety about the upcoming operation, its results, possible complications after the operation, sleep disorders, lack of confidence in the future, and discomfort about the old way of life. In the acute period of the disease, with severe anxiety and insomnia, anxiolytics and hypnotics are prescribed. In case of adjustment disorders and depressive disorders, including organic disorders, the antidepressant fluvoxamine from the SIOZS group was prescribed, which has a pronounced anti-anxiety and hypnotic effect. Benzodiazepine tranquilizers were not used in the sample of patients reviewed because there were no severe anxiety states. Patients with organic pathology were additionally monitored by a neurologist and received vascular and nootropic therapy. If there are mental disorders associated with oncopathology, the combination of drug treatment and psychotherapy has a positive effect in the long term. which helps to increase the adaptability of patients. leads to a decrease in the risk of suicide [11]. When conducting this study, psychotherapeutic counseling had an individual character, because in the first stages of hospitalization in the department, patients underwent many medical examinations, and therefore for them joining a psychotherapeutic group was difficult. Patients with prenosological diseases and patients without mental disorders (normal emotional reaction), as a rule, they turned to a psychotherapist (problem-oriented therapy) with a specific request. In relation to patients with adjustment disorders, attention was paid to the reduction of anxiety, feelings of guilt, adaptation, the situation (this was not always adaptation to the diagnosis), normalization of sleep and mood within the framework of supportive and existential psychotherapy, cognitive for affective disorders in psychotherapeutic work. - elements of behavioral therapy were used, normalization of mood, reduction of sleep and mental disturbance, normalization of mental state in organic mental disorders, reduction of mental stress was achieved due to support. In the course of work, we found that patients have certain characteristics depending on the localization of oncopathology. Thus, patients diagnosed with lung cancer responded well to care. For patients diagnosed with colon cancer, supportive psychotherapy is needed in the pre- and post-operative periods, and an educational program on colostomy maintenance skills should also be included at this stage. Gastrointestinal cancer patients have responded positively to information and education programs about proper nutrition and a healthy lifestyle. Patients of an oncological hospital are often outside the scope of specialists, although they should be treated not only by a psychiatristpsychotherapist. In the postoperative period, specialists: staff, psychiatrists, oncologists, ward staff, especially junior staff, should help alleviate the feelings of discomfort, shame and physical weakness that arise in patients.

**CONCLUSION.** Thus, in oncological diseases, a wide range of mental pathologies appears: prenosological diseases, adaptation disorders, affective disorders, external organic diseases depending on the location of cancer (intestines, stomach, lungs). important factors for In relevant patients, worsening of the mental state becomes the consequences of oncological diagnosis and extensive surgical treatment, as well as subsequent chemotherapy and radiation therapy. Psychopathological Manifestations of various oncopathologies require individual psychopharmacological and psychotherapeutic programs within the framework of individual therapy. to be the next direction of research, collision

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