



PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY IN PATIENTS WITH ALCOHOL MISUSE ATTENDING AN OPPORTUNISTIC BRIEF INTERVENTION PROGRAM IN A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

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- ✓ Alcohol-related problems: 30-40% of USA population
 - blackouts
 - driving under alcohol effects
 - academic or working failures due to alcohol consumption
- ✓ Lifetime prevalence USA:
 - Abuse: 10% women, 20% men
 - Dependence: 3-5% women, 10% men
- ✓ Spain: 3rd-5th country in the world in relation to alcohol consumption
 - decrease 80th decade: 9-10 litres ethanol/year/inhabitant
 - 2-7% harmful drinkers —————> 50% dependence
 - Medical care costs: 4.000.000.000 euros
- ✓ Primary care:
 - Reid et al., 1999 2-9%
 - López-Marina et al., 2005 3,5% (Barcelonés and Maresme)

Inpatients

- ✓ 10-32.1 % inpatients attended at General Hospitals suffer from some kind of alcohol-related problems (Chen et al 2004).
- ✓ Stability through different geographic areas:
 - Lloyd et al., 1986 19,3% harmful drinking
 - Kouimtsidis et al., 2003 14% harmful drinking
 - Okulate et al., 2005 15% dependence
- ✓ Spain
 - 9.5% inpatients in Internal Medicine Unit (Jarque-López, 2001)
- ✓ Catalonia
 - 15% inpatients with alcohol dependence Hospital Clínic (Cirera et al., 1985)
- ✓ Hospital de Bellvitge:
 - Abuse: 1% Dependence 5%
 - Men: Abuse 2% Dependence 6%
 - Women: Abuse 1% Dependence 1%

PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

	Alcohol dependence (%)	General Population (%)
Affective disorders	13,4	8,3
Anxiety disorders	19,4	14,6
Personality disorders	14,3	2,6
Schizophrenia	3,8	1,5
Other drugs misuse	21,5	6,1

(ECA, Regier y cols, 1990)

PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

- ✓ 70% Individuals receiving treatment for problem drinking meet criteria for a lifetime diagnosis of depression (Kranzler et al., 1996; Schuckit et al., 1997)
- ✓ Odds ratio for lifetime co-morbidity of alcohol abuse/dependence in patients with depression: 1.25-4.77 (Robins and Barret, 1991; Kessler et al., 1997; Canino et al., 1987; Angst and Dobler-Mikola, 1985)
- ✓ **Women:** higher risk for comorbid depression and alcohol use disorders (Gratzer et al., 2004)

PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

- ✓ 35-54% individuals with Anxiety Disorders have a lifetime diagnosis of an alcohol use disorder (Wittchen et al., 1994; Kessler et al., 1995)
- ✓ Odds ratio for lifetime co-morbidity of alcohol abuse/dependence in patients with Anxiety Disorders: 2.1-5.0 (Swendsen et al., 1998; Kushner et al., 1999)

PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY AND ALCOHOL MISUSE

- ✓ High rates of chronicity, suicide, disability and treatment resistance (Heltzer & Pryzbeck, 1988)
- ✓ Worse outcome of alcoholism in patients with comorbid psychiatric disorders.
 - ✓ Comorbid depression: abstinence needed + specific treatment
 - ✓ Anxiety disorders: abstinence
- ✓ High risk suicide: in 15-45 % of deaths by suicide there is alcoholism comorbidity
- ✓ 10%-15% of consummated suicides: alcohol dependence is the main diagnosis

ALCOHOL MISUSE AND PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY

OBJECTIVE

- ✓ To study the lifetime prevalence of psychiatric pathology in a group of patients with alcohol misuse attended during an opportunistic brief intervention program at the Departments of Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology of a University Hospital
- ✓ To analyze the clinical correlations between psychiatric comorbidity and alcohol misuse in this group of patients

October 2002-October 2005

3017 PATIENTS

AUDIT > 7 men
> 5 women

513 (17,0%) Alcohol misuse

64,9% Abuse/dependence

32,9% Risky/harmful drinkers

471 Psychiatric Interview

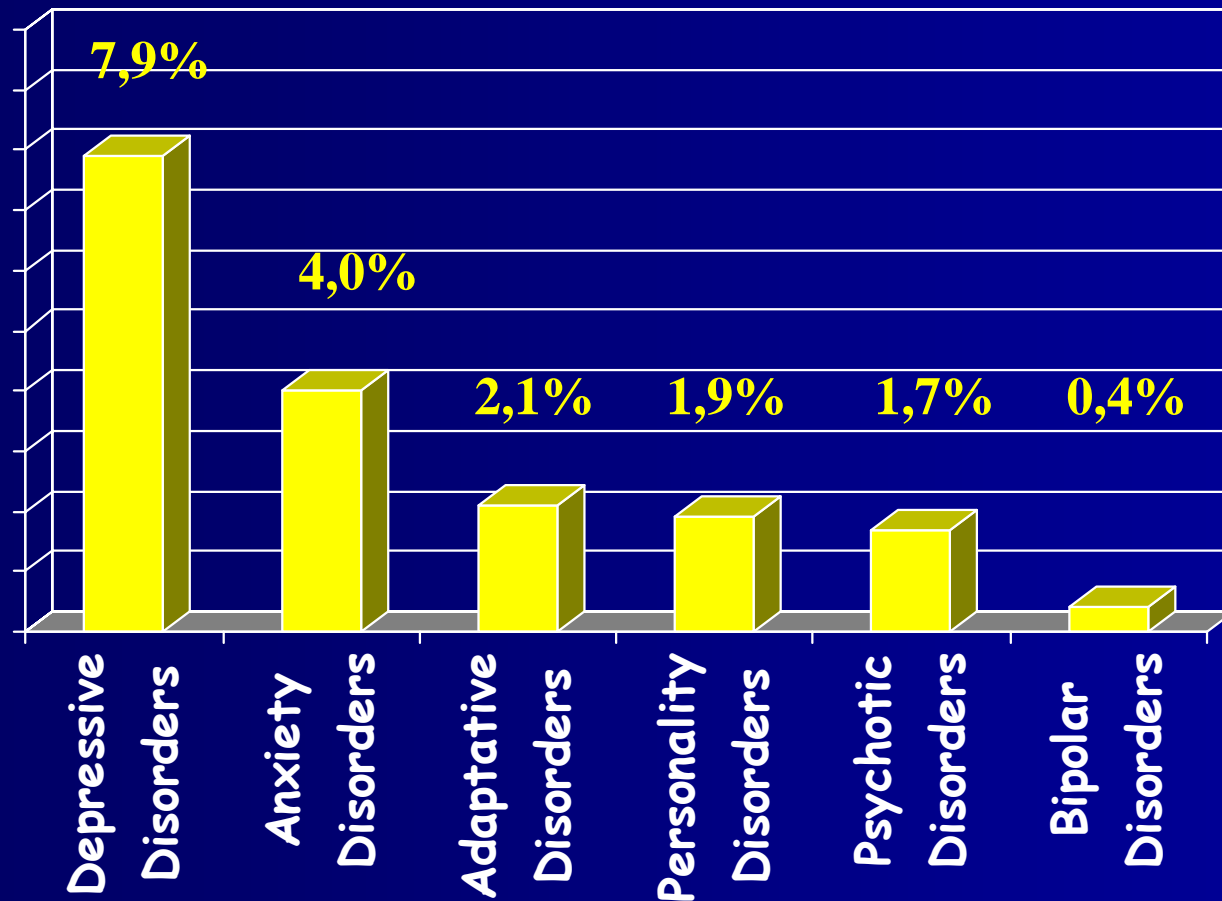
PSYCHIATRIC
COMORBIDITY

62 (13,2%)

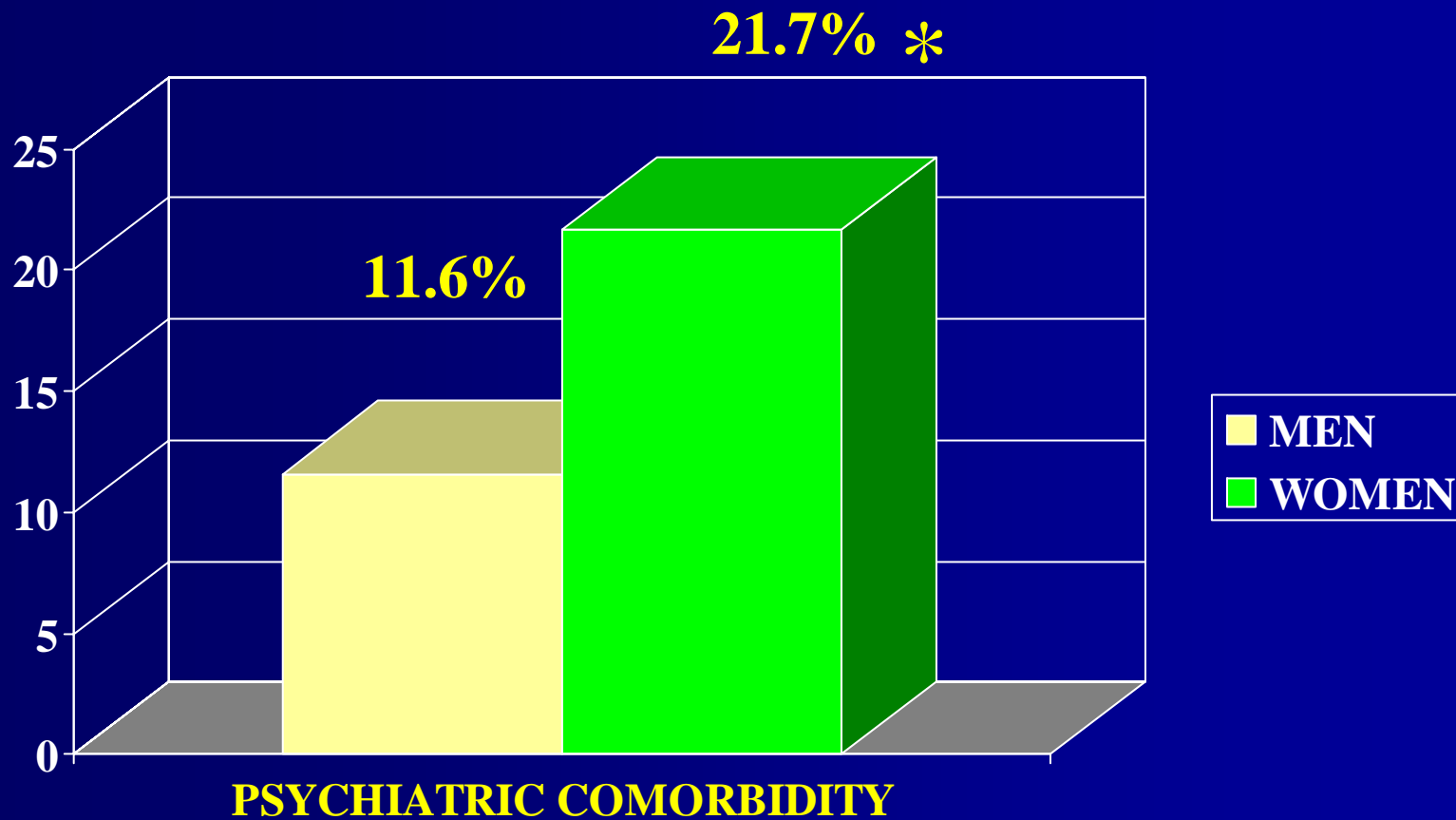
ALCOHOL MISUSE AND PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY

Characteristics	N=513
Gender, men	430 (84%)
Age yr., $\bar{x} \pm SD$	54.1 \pm 15.1
Marital status	
Single	81 (15%)
Married	224 (43%)
Divorced/separated	61 (12%)
Other	43 (8%)
Unknown	112 (21%)
Employment	
Employed/working	132 (25%)
Unemployed	48 (9%)
Retired	178 (34%)
Other	53 (10%)
Unknown	110 (21%)

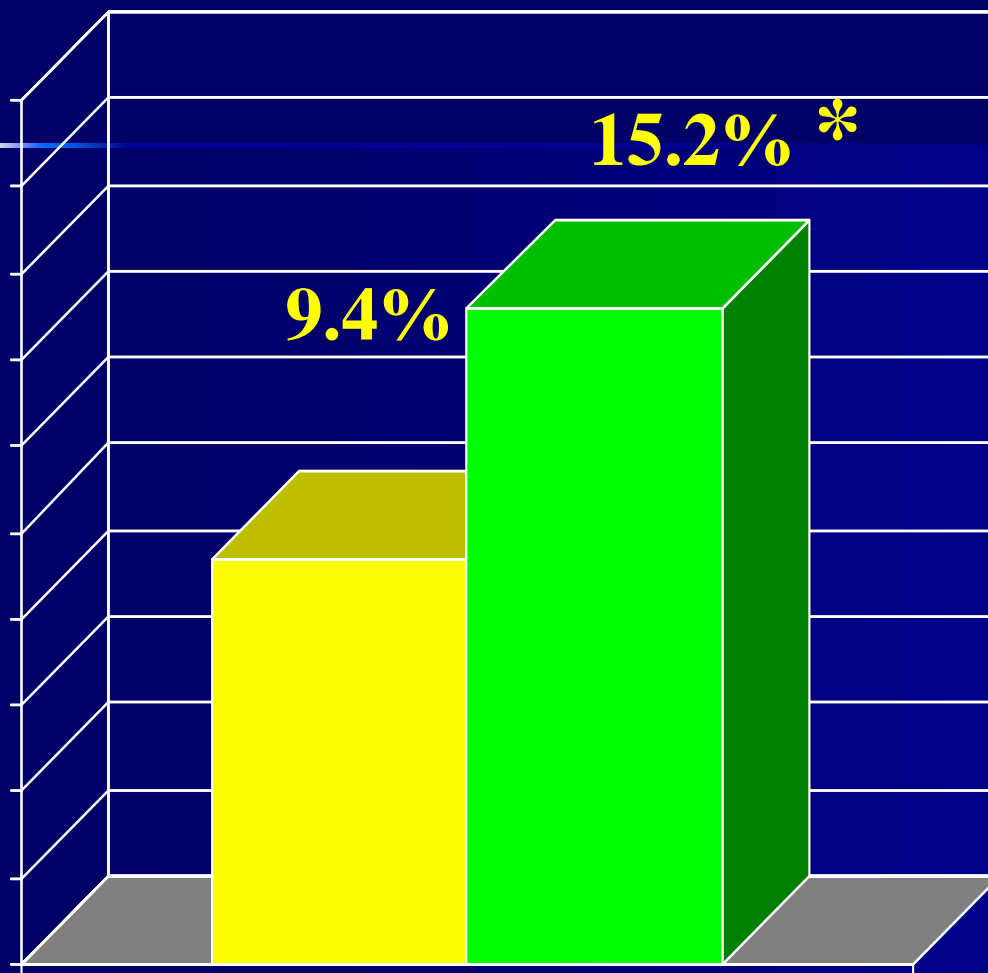
ALCOHOL MISUSE AND PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY



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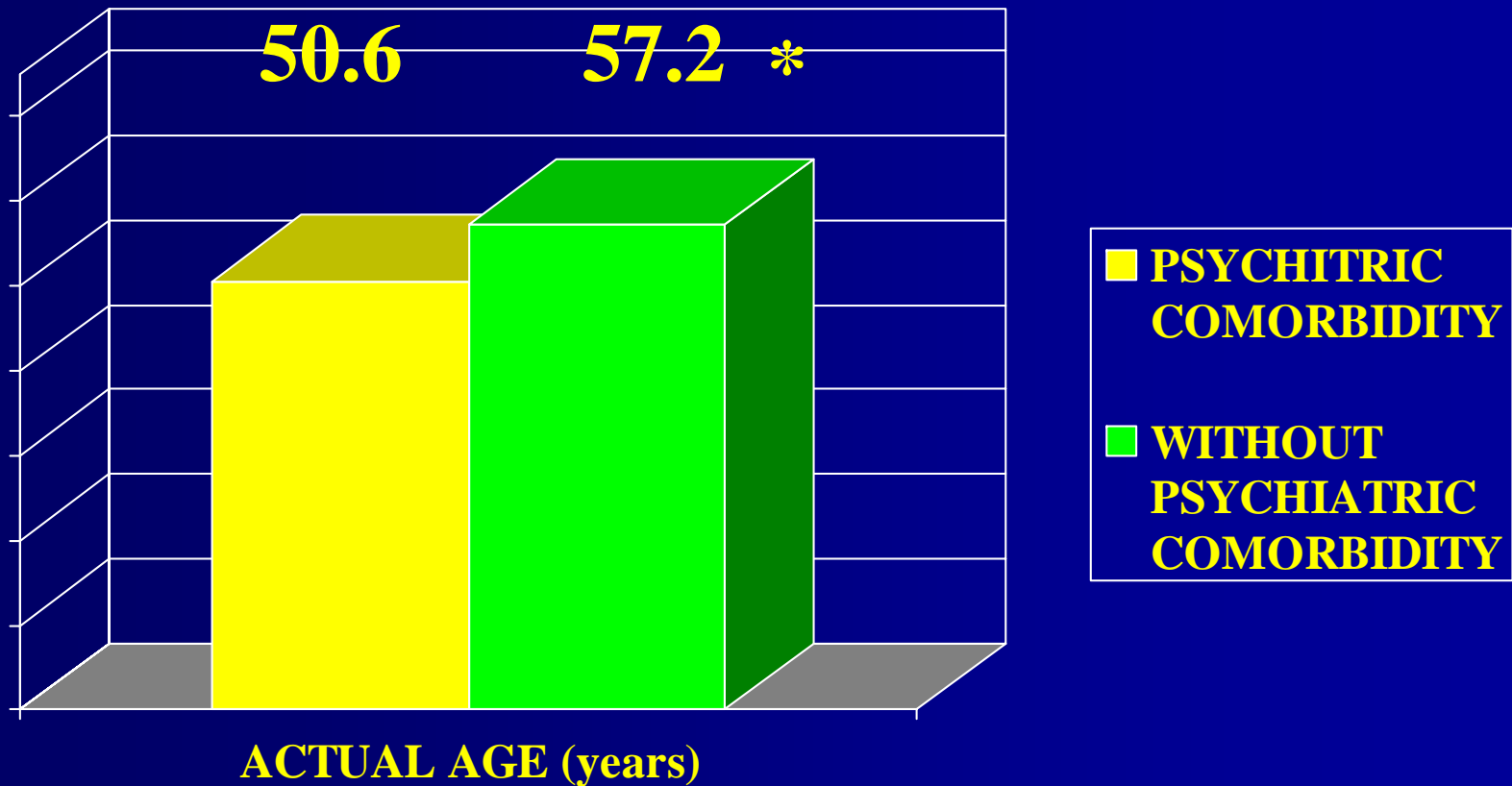
ALCOHOL MISUSE AND PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY



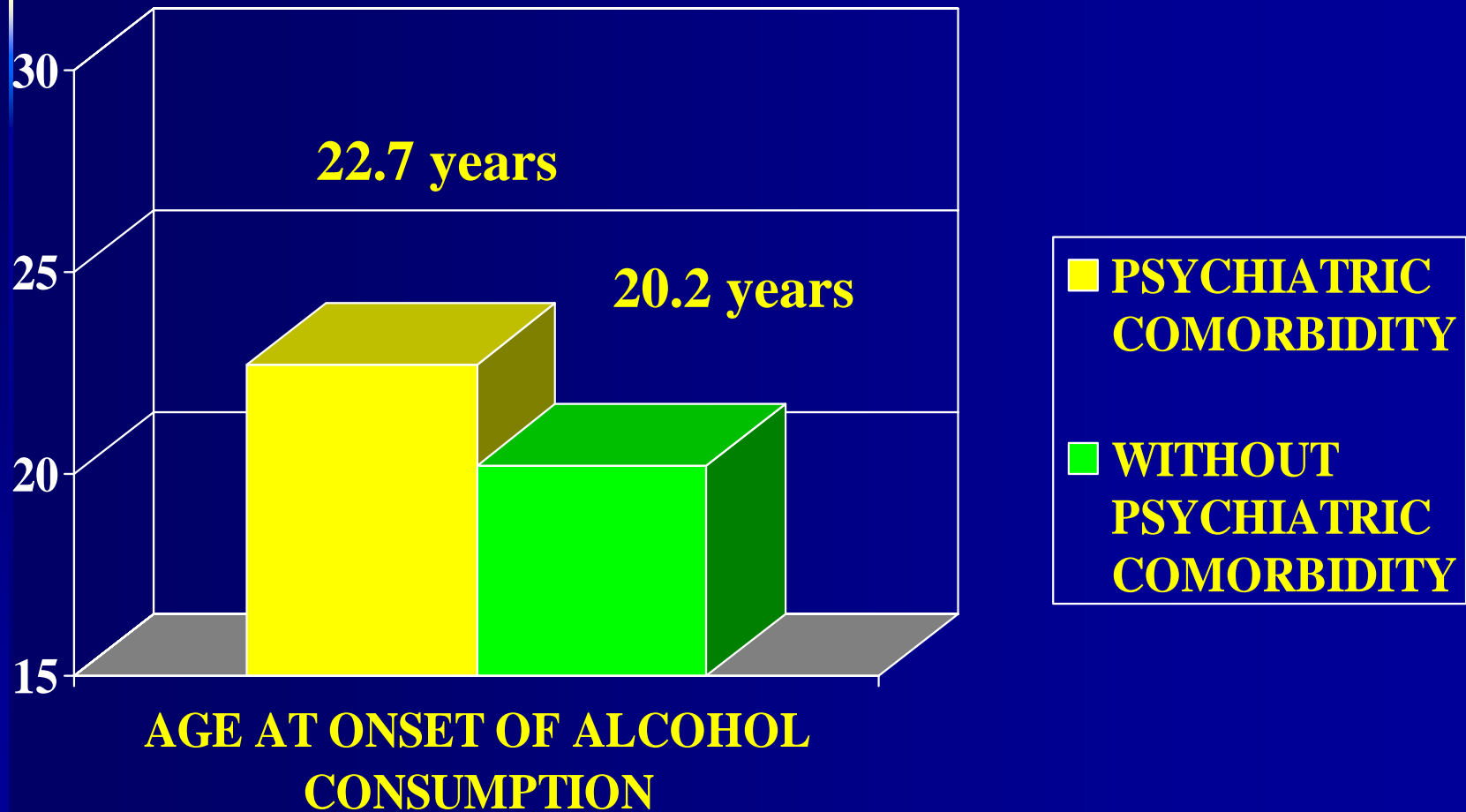
- Risky/harmful
- Abuse/dependence

PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY

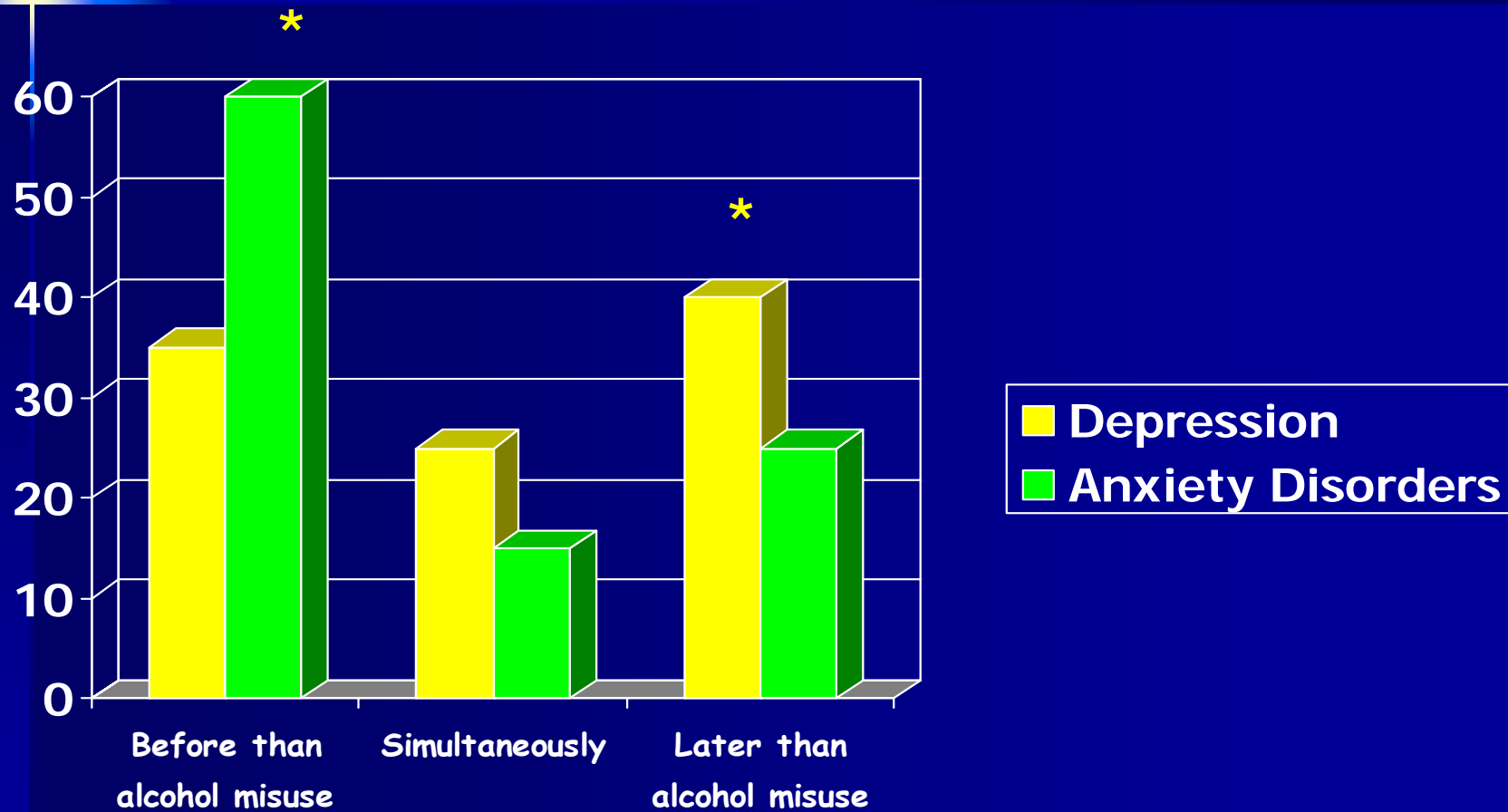
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ALCOHOL MISUSE AND PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY



CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ 17% INPATIENTS AT INTERNAL MEDICINE AND GASTROENTEROLOGY DEPARTMENTS PRESENTED ALCOHOL MISUSE
 - 32.1% RISKY/HARMFUL DRINKERS
 - 64.9% ALCOHOL ABUSE/DEPENDENCE
- ✓ 13.2% OF ALCOHOL MISUSERS SUFFERED FROM PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITY
- ✓ DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY DISORDERS WERE THE MAIN DIAGNOSIS
- ✓ HIGHER RISK: women, young patients and those with alcohol abuse/dependence