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POL. CAP. KANOKWAN SUNGSILN : AMPHETAMINE ABUSE IN TRAUMA PATIENTS. THESIS ADVISORS : AMNAJ KUSALANAN M.D., PIMPRAPAI SENEEWONG NA AYUDHYA B.Sc. (TECH)., M.Sc. (FORENSIC SCIENCE)., REWATT CATITHAMMANIT B.Sc. (CHEMISTRY)., M.Sc. (FORENSIC SCIENCE) 76 P. ISBN 974-662-344-3

The purpose of this research is to study the incidence of amphetamine use among injured patients.

The population of this study was 382 injured patients who received treatment at Siriraj Hospital, divided into 2 groups, those who were severely injured (study group) and general patients (control group). Analysis in this study was performed using Strip Method, TDX analysis and Gas Chromatography.

From the result of this research, amphetamine was found in the urine of 19 (9.7%) of the 196 patients in the study group; 177 study group patients (90.3%) did not have amphetamine in urine. Patients who were 21-30 years old were both most severely injured and most likely to test positive for amphetamine in urine. Most patients were injured between 20.00 pm.-24.00 pm. Most positive test for amphetamine in urine occurred between 0.00 am.-4.00 am. In the control group, only 1 patient (0.5%) tested positive for amphetamine in urine and the rest (195 patients or 99.5%) were negative for amphetamine in urine. Since very few control group patients (< 1%) tested positive for amphetamine in urine, the control group data was not included in this study.

The researcher suggests that further study should focus on groups that are at high risk of amphetamine addiction. Subjects' urine and blood samples should be obtained because it is not difficult to take both at the same time. Moreover, substance analysis by using scientific instruments such as TDX and Gas Chromatograph could be conducted to indentify other substances in addition to amphetamine.