Abstract

Introduction: The relationship between mental disorder and burns is complex. Mental disorders may predispose to burns and burns can facilitate the development of mental disorders. Method: Case report and literature review. Results: We present four cases of women with self-inflicted burns and psychotic symptoms. The average age of these women was 39.2 years. Burns were caused by flames in 100% of the cases and 27.2% of the total body surface was burned. Three of the patients (75%) had a bipolar disorder with mixed symptoms and in 50% of the patients the mental illness debuted with the self-inflicted burns. Conclusions: Basic psychopathology that may explain the occurrence of the injury and could hamper the process of recovery and rehabilitation should be explored in all burned patients.

Keywords

Burns, mental disorders, hallucinations.