

# Identification of Some Risk Factors of Recurrent Relapses Interval Duration in Patients with Schizoaffective Disorder

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** Identifying risk factors of recurrent relapses interval durations in patients with schizoaffective disorder in order to increase the intervals of relapses is important. Controlling the disorder procedure in this recursive disorder is one of the treatment stages. This study aimed to identify some risk factors of recurrent relapses intervals in patients with schizoaffective disorder.

**Methods:** Medical records of 212 treated patients with schizoaffective disorder in Tehran Razi Mental Center were investigated. In addition to the recurrent relapses and hospital discharge times, factors including gender, marital status, education, and history of substance abuse, alcohol and psychedelic pills usage were also investigated as possible influential factors in the process. Gap time recurrent frailty model of survival analysis was fitted to the data and model parameters were estimated using EM algorithm with R3.2.1 software.

**Results:** Of the patients, 74.5%, 33% and 67% were male, single and with history of smoking, respectively. Frailty parameter was significant ( $\theta^{\wedge} = 0.232$ ,  $P = 0.021$ ). Gender ( $P < 0.001$ ), marital status ( $P = 0.017$ ), education ( $P < 0.001$ ), occupation ( $P = 0.035$ ) and history of drug abuse ( $P = 0.041$ ) were the factors identified as significant risk factors of recurrent relapse intervals. The frailty variance ( $\theta^{\wedge} = 0.232$ ,  $P = 0.021$ ) indicated wide individual variations in characters, which were significant.

**Conclusions:** Significance of the frailty parameter indicated that the impact of entered individual factors on relapse intervals in patient with schizoaffective disorder was unmeasurable. Male patients indicated 0.78 times more than females, illiterates 0.9 times less than those with diplomas, singles 0.83 times more than married people, psychotropic pills consumers 0.91 times and alcohol consumers 0.83 times more than others, and self-employed people, housewives and unemployed ones experienced subsequent relapses 0.85, 0.81 and 0.83 times faster.

**Keywords:** Schizoaffective Disorder, Delayed Relapses, Recurrent Gap-Time Model with Frailty, Survival Analysis