A photograph of two surgeons in an operating room, wearing blue scrubs, masks, and caps. They are focused on a patient, with one surgeon's hands visible near a medical device. The background is slightly blurred, showing medical equipment and monitors.

# **Impact of alcohol abuse after major non-cardiac surgery and postoperative cognitive dysfunction**

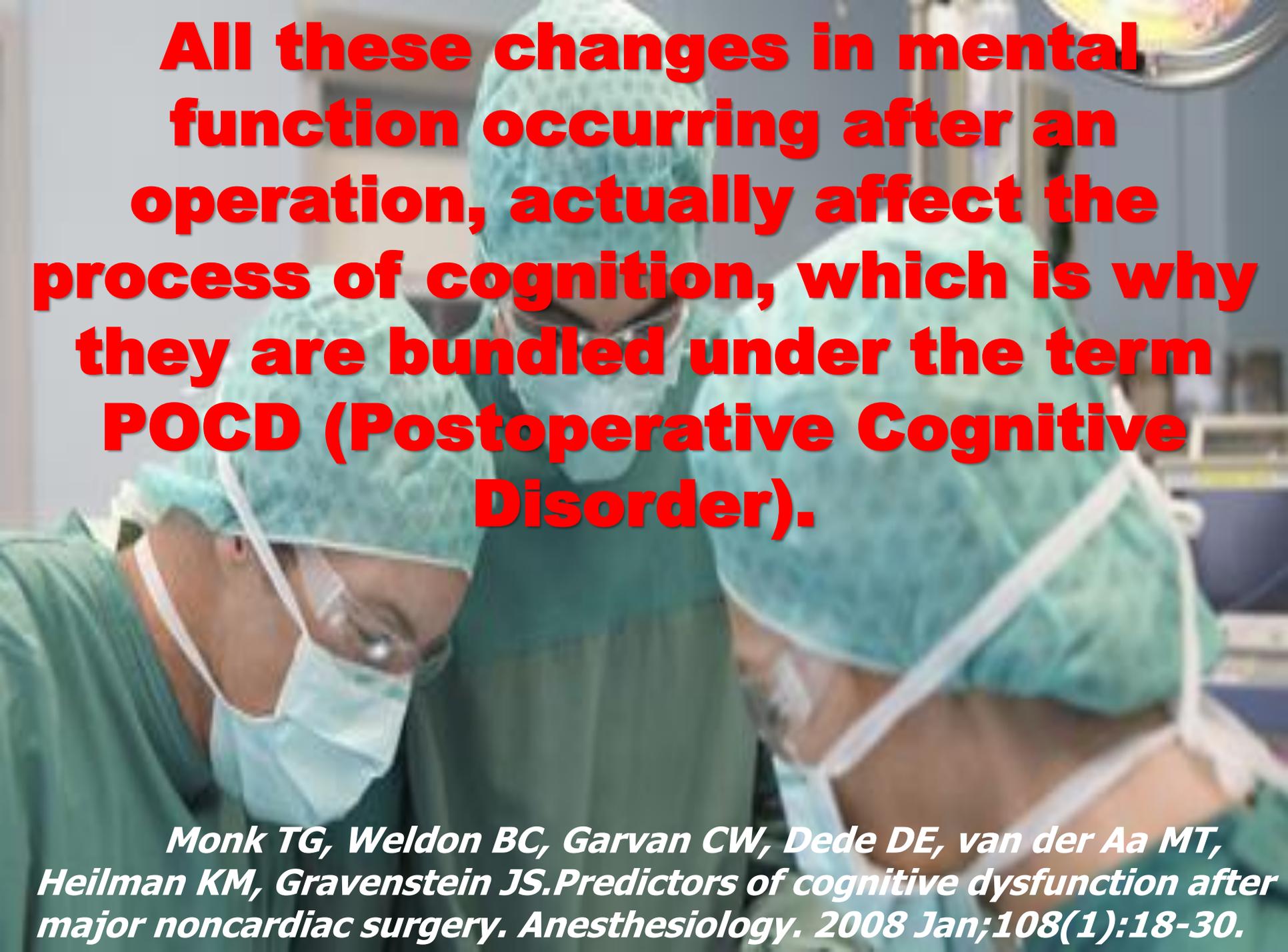
***Professor Ljiljana Gvozdenović,  
Clinical Center of Vojvodina,  
Medical University, Novi Sad, Serbia***

NOVI SAD, SERBIA

**Some people tell of relatives who were "never the same since the last operation".**

**Yet other people tell of personal experiences of reduced ability to concentrate, reduced attention span, and of memory problems after undergoing an operation.**





**All these changes in mental function occurring after an operation, actually affect the process of cognition, which is why they are bundled under the term POCD (Postoperative Cognitive Disorder).**

*Monk TG, Weldon BC, Garvan CW, Dede DE, van der Aa MT, Heilman KM, Gravenstein JS. Predictors of cognitive dysfunction after major noncardiac surgery. Anesthesiology. 2008 Jan;108(1):18-30.*

**These changes may even be so severe that some elderly people actually**

**become demented after undergoing an operation.**



An elderly woman with white hair is lying in a hospital bed. She is looking down and to the right with a somber expression. The background shows a hospital room with a metal bed frame and a white pillow.

Cognitive dysfunction is common in adult patients of all ages at hospital discharge after major noncardiac surgery, but only the elderly (aged 60 yr or older) are at significant risk for long-term cognitive problems. Patients with POCD are at an increased risk of death in the first year after surgery.



*Johnson, Tim F.R.C.A.\*; Monk, Terri M.D.†; Rasmussen, Lars S. M.D.‡; Abildstrom, Hanne M.D.§; Houx, Peter Ph.D.||; Korttila, Kari M.D.‡; Kuipers, Harrie M.\*\*; Hanning, Chris D. M.D.††; Siersma, Volkert D. M.T.D.‡‡; Kristensen, Diana M.D.§§; Canet, Jaume M.D.||||; Ibañez, Maria Teresa M.D.‡‡; Moller, Jakob T. M.D.†††; Geda YE, Postoperative Cognitive Dysfunction in Middle-aged Patients. Anesthesiology:June 2002 - Volume 96 - Issue 6 - pp 1351-1357.*

**The risk factors for postoperative cognitive dysfunction (POCD) after non-cardiac surgery include advanced age, alcohol abuse and pre existing cognitive impairment.**

**Patients who misuse alcohol**

**may be at increased risk of**

**surgical**

**complications**

**and poorer function following**

**non-cardiac surgery.**

**Identification and  
intervention may lead to  
harm reduction and  
improve the outcomes of  
surgery.**

A photograph of a man lying on his back on a green park bench. He is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, dark pants, and dark shoes. His eyes are closed, and he appears to be unconscious or in a state of medical emergency. Several slices of watermelon are scattered on the ground around the bench, and one slice is on the bench itself. The background shows trees and a park setting.

*Chan MTV, Cheng BCP, Lee TMC, Gin T CODA Trial Group. BIS-guided  
anesthesia decreases post-operative delirium and cognitive decline. J  
Neurosurg Anesthesiol. 2013;25:33-42.*

**POCD, affects a significant number of patients and may have serious consequences on quality of life.**

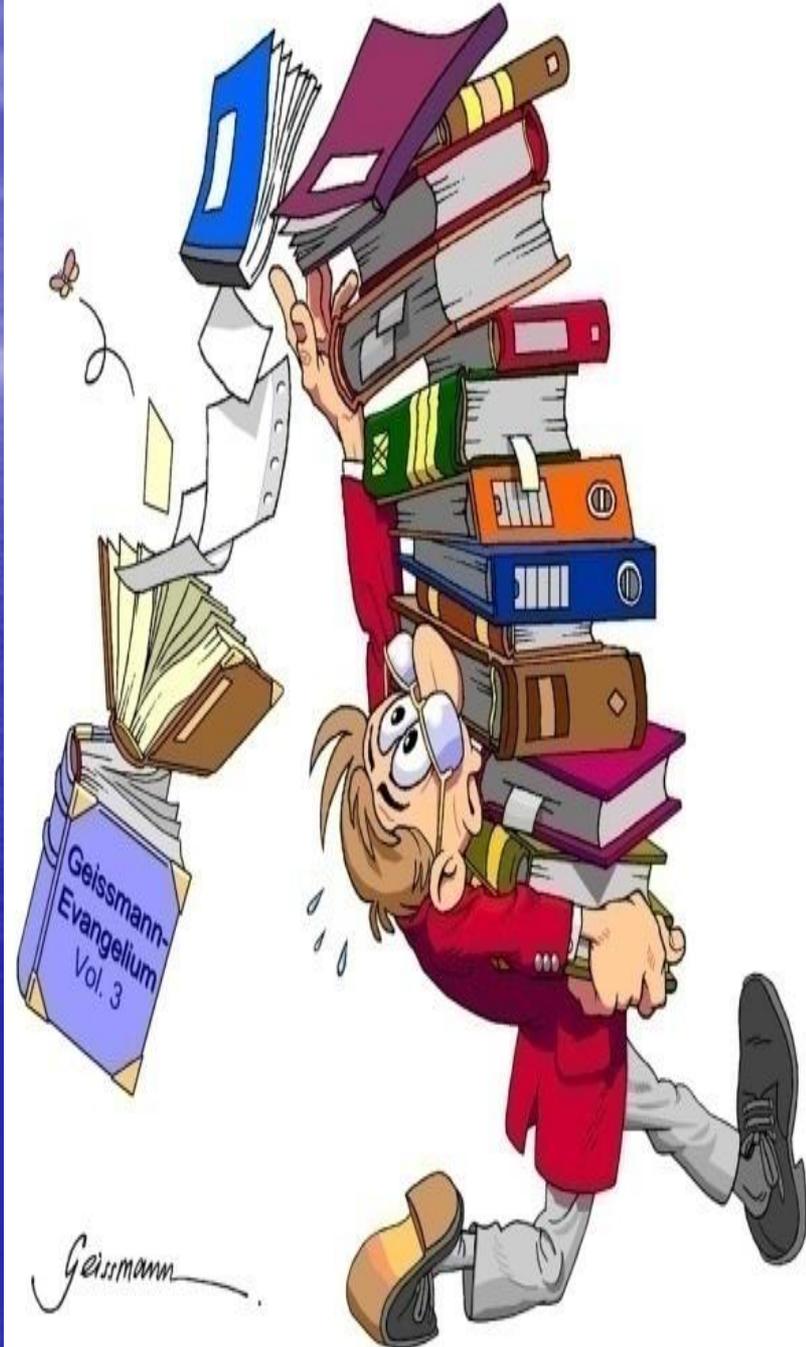


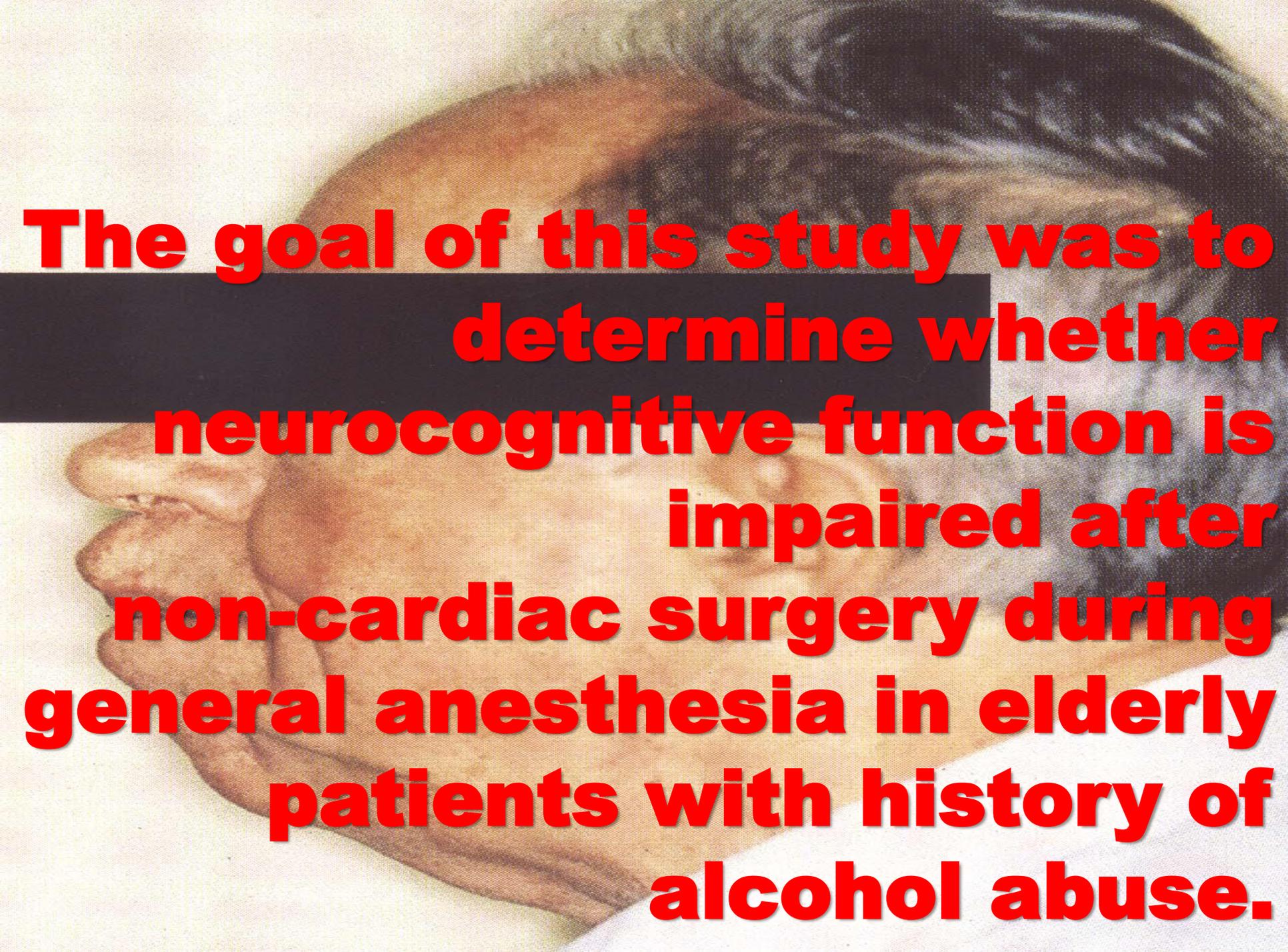
**The leading hypothesis suggests that delirium can be caused by a central cholinergic deficiency and is based on treatment with alcohol which impairs cholinergic function .**



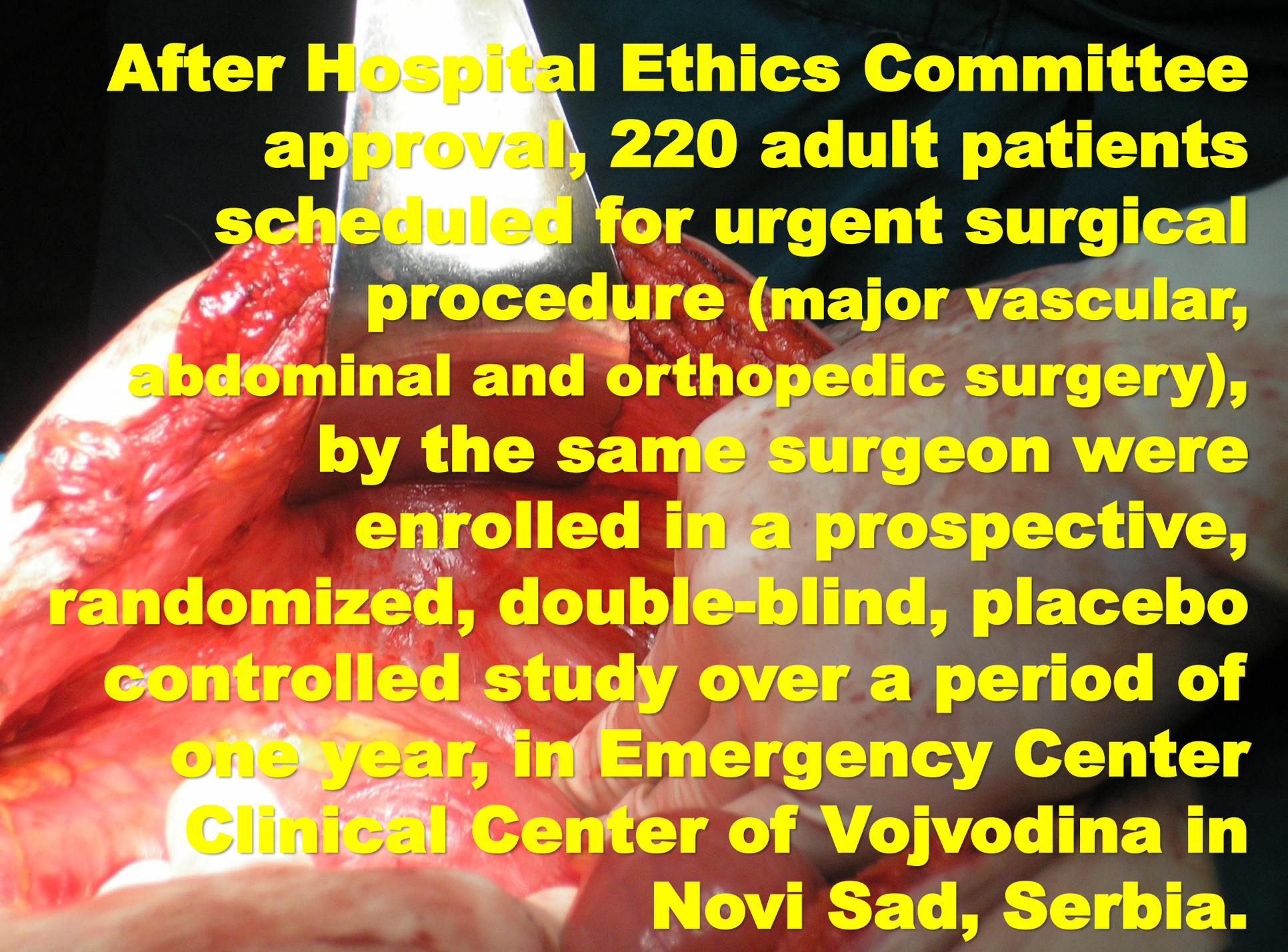
**Increase of serum anticholinergic activity (SAA) levels correlates with greater number of delirium symptoms, where as SAA decrease is correlates with delirium resolution.**

**(Mach , 1995;  
Flacker, 1998;  
Mussi, 1999).**

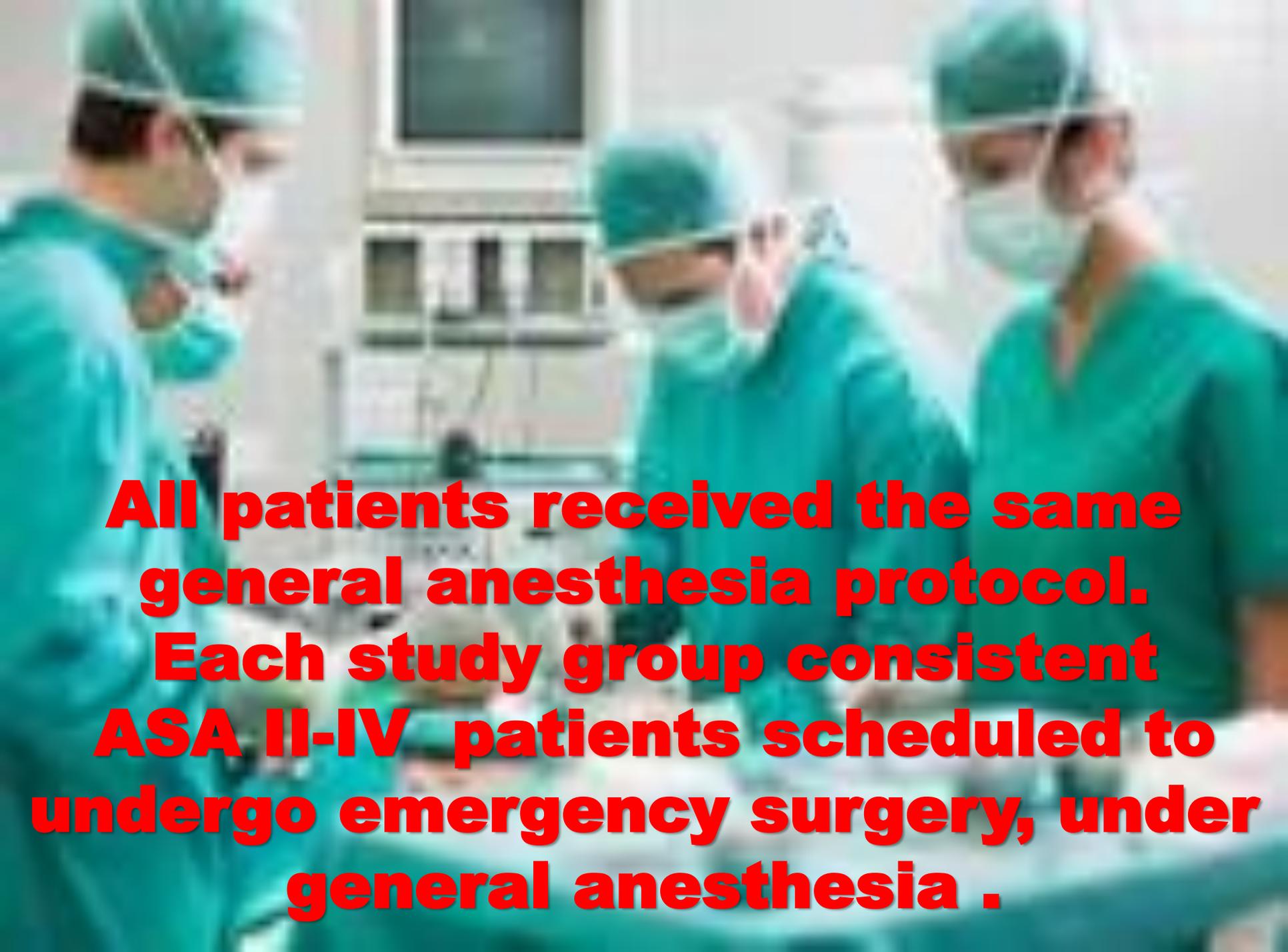




**The goal of this study was to determine whether neurocognitive function is impaired after non-cardiac surgery during general anesthesia in elderly patients with history of alcohol abuse.**



**After Hospital Ethics Committee approval, 220 adult patients scheduled for urgent surgical procedure (major vascular, abdominal and orthopedic surgery), by the same surgeon were enrolled in a prospective, randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled study over a period of one year, in Emergency Center Clinical Center of Vojvodina in Novi Sad, Serbia.**



**All patients received the same general anesthesia protocol. Each study group consistent ASA II-IV patients scheduled to undergo emergency surgery, under general anesthesia .**

**Patients were divided into  
four age groups:  
18-39 years, 40-59 years,  
60+ years, after major surgery**

**and 60+ years of age,  
after minor surgery .**



**Differences were described and highlighted certain advantages**



**compared to the Mini**

**Mental State Examination.**

# Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)

founded in 1996 by Dr. Ziad Nasreddin in Montreal (Canada). The Ministry of Civil Affairs issued a test on one side (30-point test) to be solved for about 10 minutes. The test is available in 35 languages and dialects.



The test involves attention, concentration, memory, executive functions, visual structural skills, conceptualization, computing and orientation. The total possible number of points is 30. The result of 26 or more points is considered normal.

Fujiwara Y. Brief screening tool for mild cognitive impairment in older Japanese. Validation of the Japanese version of the Montreal Cognitive Assessment. *Geriatr Gerontol. Int.* 2010;10:225-232.

МОНТРЕАЛСКА ПРОЦЕНА КОГНИЦИЈЕ MONTREAL COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT (MoCA)		ИМЕ: Образовање: Пол:	Датум рођења: ДАТУМ:	Поени				
<b>ВИЗУЕЛНОПРОСТОРНЕ/ ИЗВРШНЕ</b> 		Препратите коцку	Нартајте САГ (једанаест и десет) (3 поена)	___/5				
<b>ИМЕНОВАЊЕ</b> 				___/3				
<b>МЕМОРИЈА</b> Прочитајте листу речи; испитаник их мора поновити. Направите 2 покушаја. Испитајте присећање речи након 5 минута.		ЛИЦЕ	СОМОТ	ЦРКВА	ЗУМБУЛ	ЦРВЕН		
<b>ПАЖЊА</b> Прочитајте листу бројева (1 број/сек.). Испитаник треба да их понови редом [ ] 2 1 8 5 4 Испитаник треба да их понови обрнутим редом [ ] 7 4 2 Прочитајте слова са листе. Испитаник треба да пише руком сваки пут кад чује слово А. Без поена за резултат ≥ 2 грешке. [ ] ФБАЦМНААЈКЛБАФАКДЕАААЈАМОФААБ								___/2
Серијско одузимање по 7 поени од 100 [ ] 93 [ ] 86 [ ] 79 [ ] 72 [ ] 65 4 или 5 тачних резултата: 3 п, 2 или 3 тачна: 2 п, 1 тачна: 1 п, 0 тачних: 0 п.								___/3
<b>ЈЕЗИК</b> Понављајте: Ја знам само то да је данас Јован на реду да помаже. [ ] Мачка се увек крила испод кауча кад су пси били у соби. [ ] Флуентност / Наведите у једној минути што је могуће више речи које почињу на слово Ф [ ] (N ≥ 11 речи)								___/2
<b>АБСТРАКТНО МИШЉЕЊЕ</b> Сличност између нпр. банане – поморанџе = воће [ ] воз – бицикл [ ] сат-лењир								___/2
<b>ОДГОЂЕНО ПРИСЕЊАЊЕ</b> Присећање речи БЕЗ ПОМОЋИ		ЛИЦЕ [ ]	СОМОТ [ ]	ЦРКВА [ ]	ЗУМБУЛ [ ]	ЦРВЕН [ ]	Поени за присећање без подсетника	___/5
<b>ОПЦИОНАЛНО</b> са подсетником за категорију вишеструки избор подсетника								
<b>ОРИЕНТАЦИЈА</b> [ ] датум [ ] дан [ ] месец [ ] година [ ] установа [ ] град								___/6
© Z.Nasreddine MD Верзија 7.1 www.mocatest.org Нормалан резултат ≥26/30		<b>УКУПНО</b>		___/30		Додајте 1 поен за ≤ 12 година школе		

A photograph of four surgeons in an operating room, wearing blue scrubs, masks, and hairnets, focused on a surgical procedure. The room is dimly lit with a large overhead surgical light fixture. The text is overlaid in yellow on the image.

**Verbal memory, visuo-spatial memory, and executive functions were assessed. A neurologic examination was performed to exclude subjects**

**with potential cerebrovascular damage.**

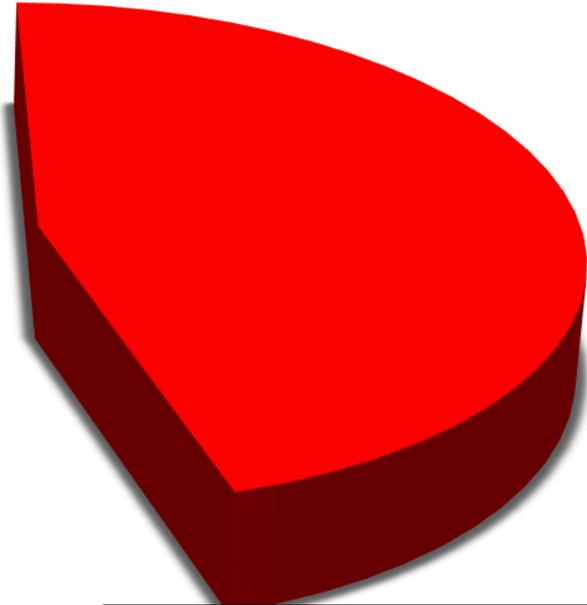
**Standard laboratory analyses were done and findings recorded.**

# Results

**Group No II**  
**20 patients**  
**(they not need surgery)**



**Group No III: Urging**  
**postponed, till 72 h**  
**(100 patients)**

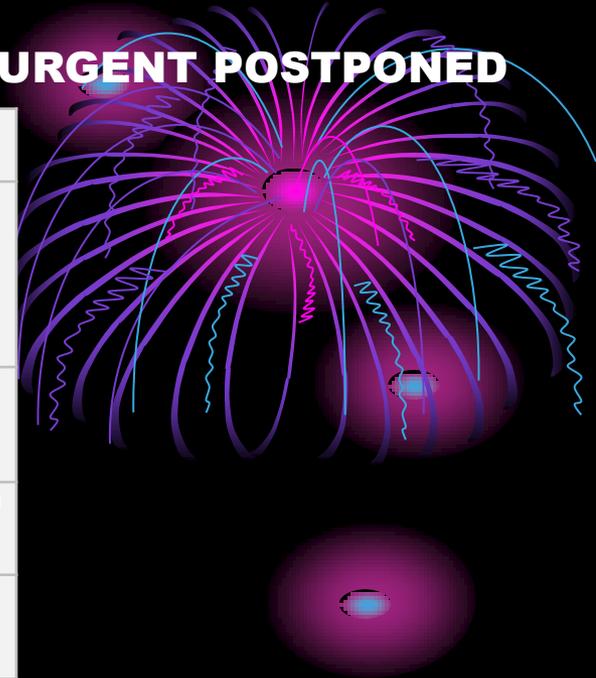


**Group No II:**  
**Emergency Surgery**  
**till 6h**  
**(100 patients)**

**Chapt No 1. The distribution of patients according to the criteria for surgery**

**Table No 2. Sex** (In the Group URGENT , the Group URGENT POSTPONED)

	frequency	Sex %	Valid %	Cumulative %
<b>M</b>	101	50.5	50.5	50.5
<b>F</b>	99	49.5	49.5	100.0
<b>Total</b>	200	100.0	100.0	



Test Statistics	
Chi-Square	.020
df	
Asymp. Sig.	.888

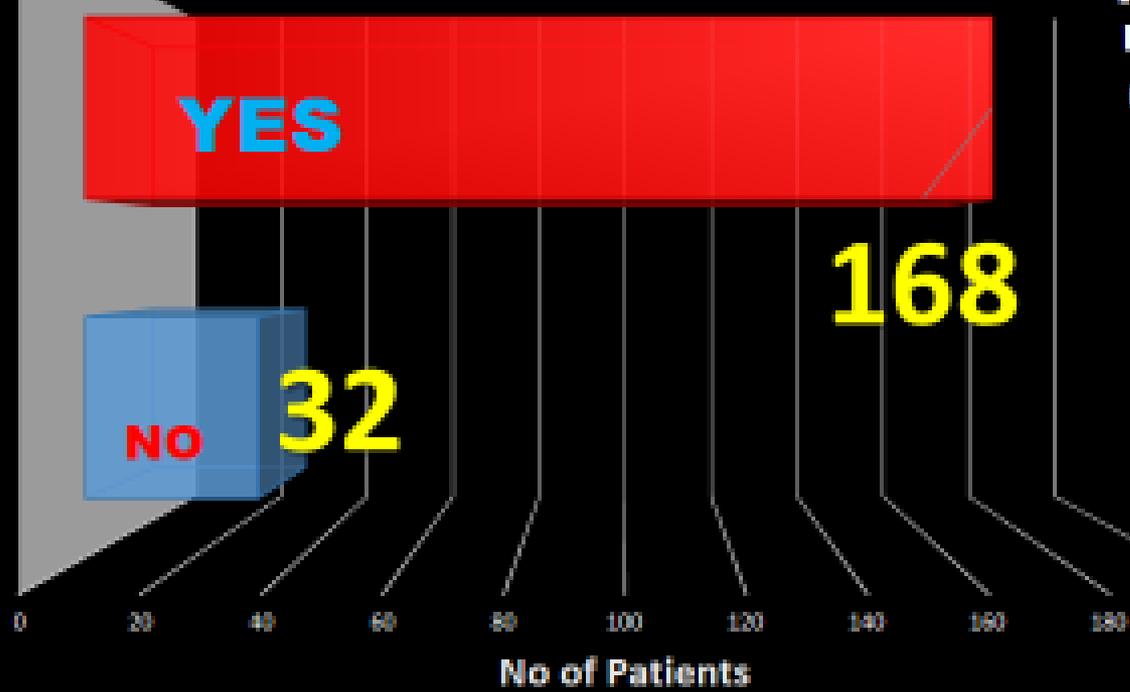
**Pearson's  $\chi^2$  test : there are no statistical differences ( $\chi^2=0.020$ ,  $df=1$ ,  $p=0.888$ ,  $p>0,05$ ).**

# Distribution of patients based on alcohol consumption (In the Group URGENT , the Group URGENT POSTPONED)

## Table 1. Alcohol consumption

		Does the patient consumes alcohol			
		frequency	%	Valid Percent	cumulative percentage
	NO	32	16.0	16.0	16.0
	YES	168	84.0	84.0	100.0
	TOTAL	200	100.0	100.0	

### Chart 1. Consumes alcohol

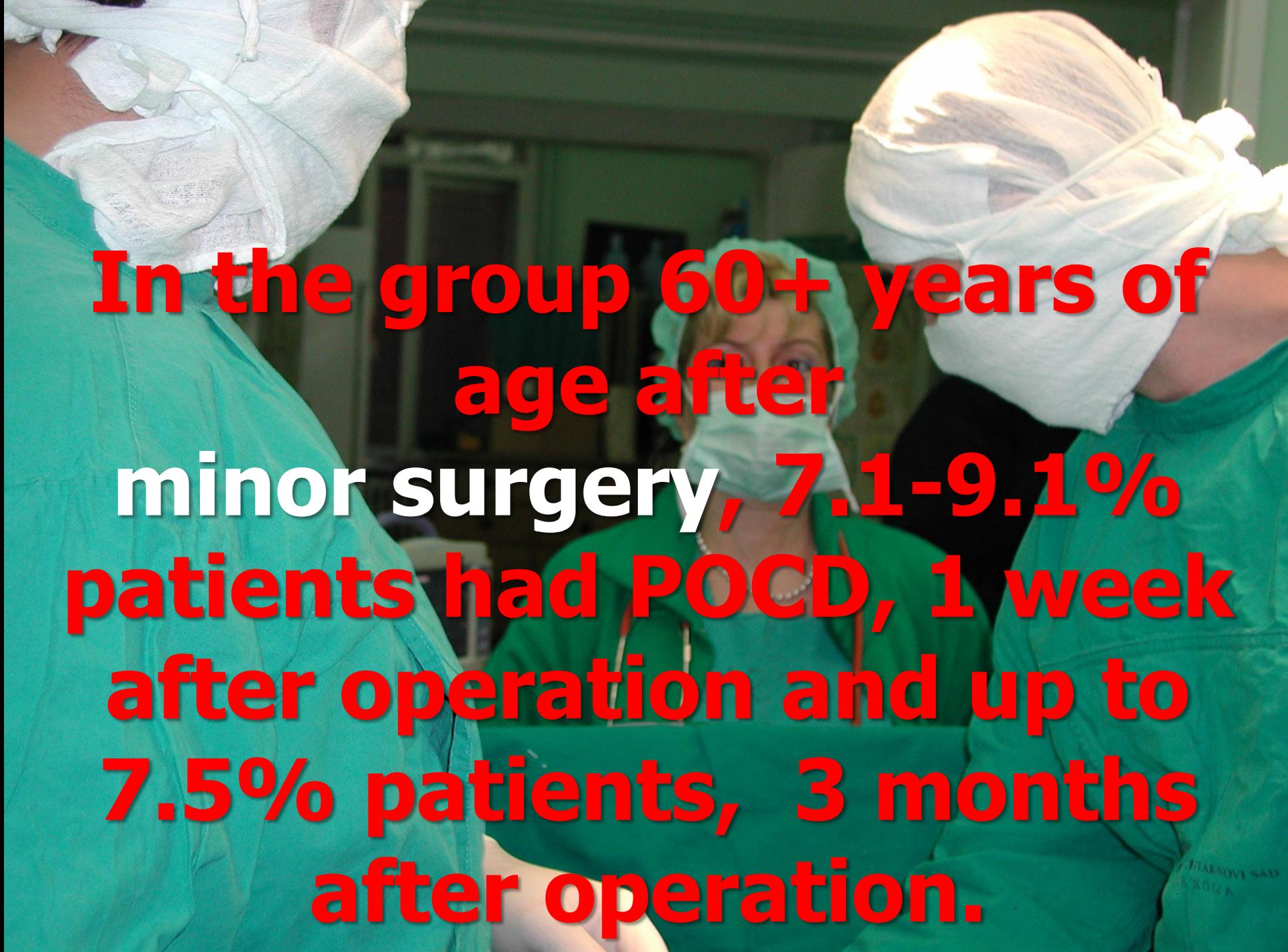


**Table and Chart No1:** point to the fact that among respondents registered 168 (84%) treated patients who chronically consume alcohol.

Pearson  $\chi^2$  test shows that there is a statistically significant difference in relation to alcohol consumption in subjects ( $\chi^2 = 92.480$ ,  $df = 1$ ,  $p = 0.000$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ).

A photograph of surgeons in an operating room, wearing green scrubs and white surgical masks and caps. The text is overlaid in large, bold, yellow font.

**In the group 60+ years  
after major surgery,  
there were symptoms in  
5.4 - 52.4% patients,  
1 week after operation  
and  
6.1-8.7%,  
3 months after operation.**

A photograph of three surgeons in an operating room. They are wearing green scrubs and white surgical masks and caps. The background is slightly blurred, showing the typical environment of a surgical suite. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, red font with a white outline.

**In the group 60+ years of age after minor surgery, 7.1-9.1% patients had POCD, 1 week after operation and up to 7.5% patients, 3 months after operation.**

**Pearson's  $\chi^2$  test showed a statistically significant difference in regard to the use of alcohol ( $\chi^2=19.220$ ,  $df=1$ ,  $p=0.000$ ,  $p<0.05$ ).**

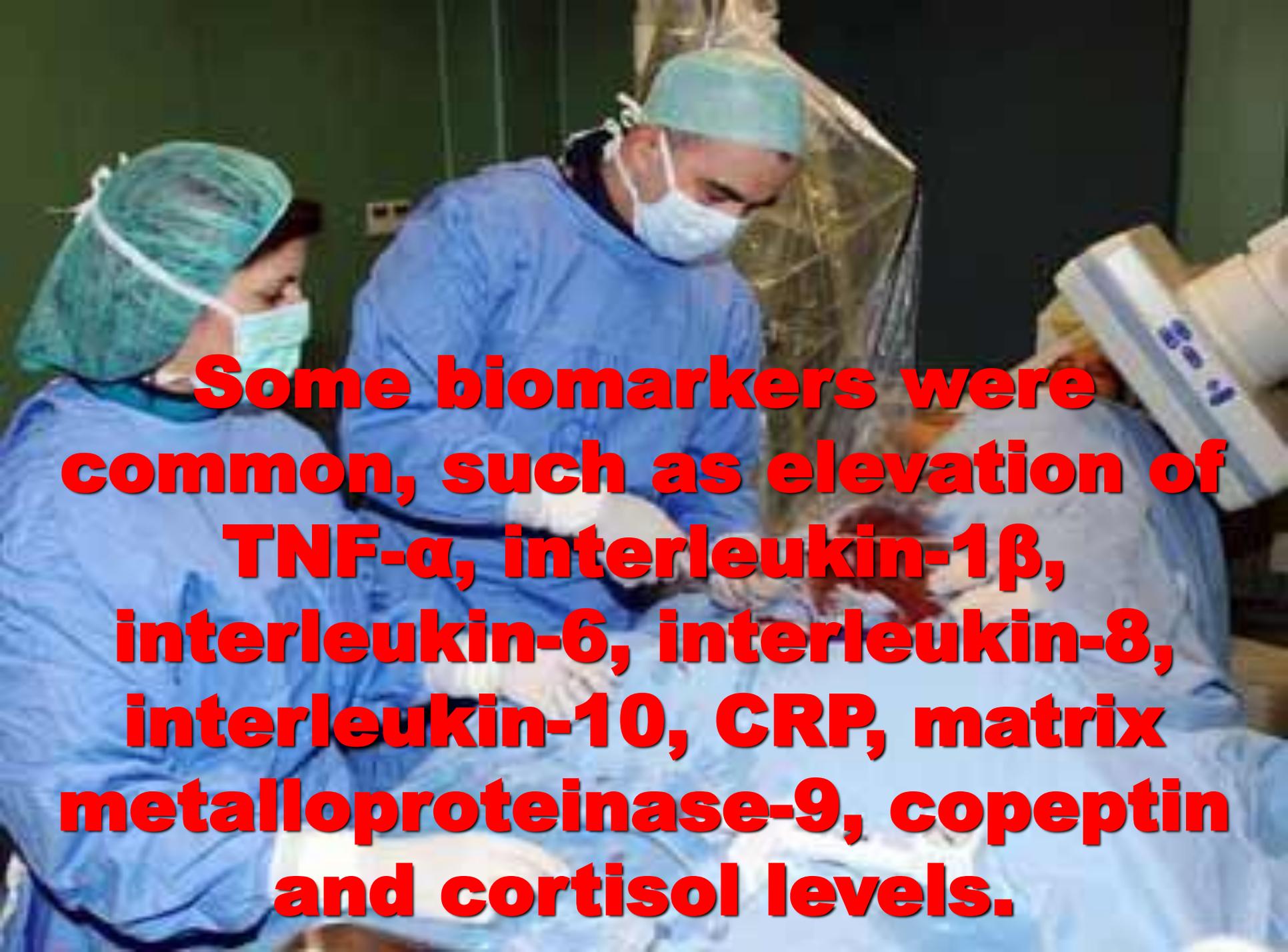


"My doctor told me to avoid any unnecessary stress, so I didn't open his bill."

# ***EMERGENCY CENTER, NOVI SAD, SERBIA***



**Midle- age group patients (40-59 years)  
with major surgery had POCD in  
5.6-34.8%, 1 week after operation and  
6.1-8.7%, 3 months after operation.**

A photograph of two surgeons in an operating room. They are wearing blue scrubs, surgical masks, and green hairnets. They are focused on a patient lying on the operating table. The background shows medical equipment and a sterile environment.

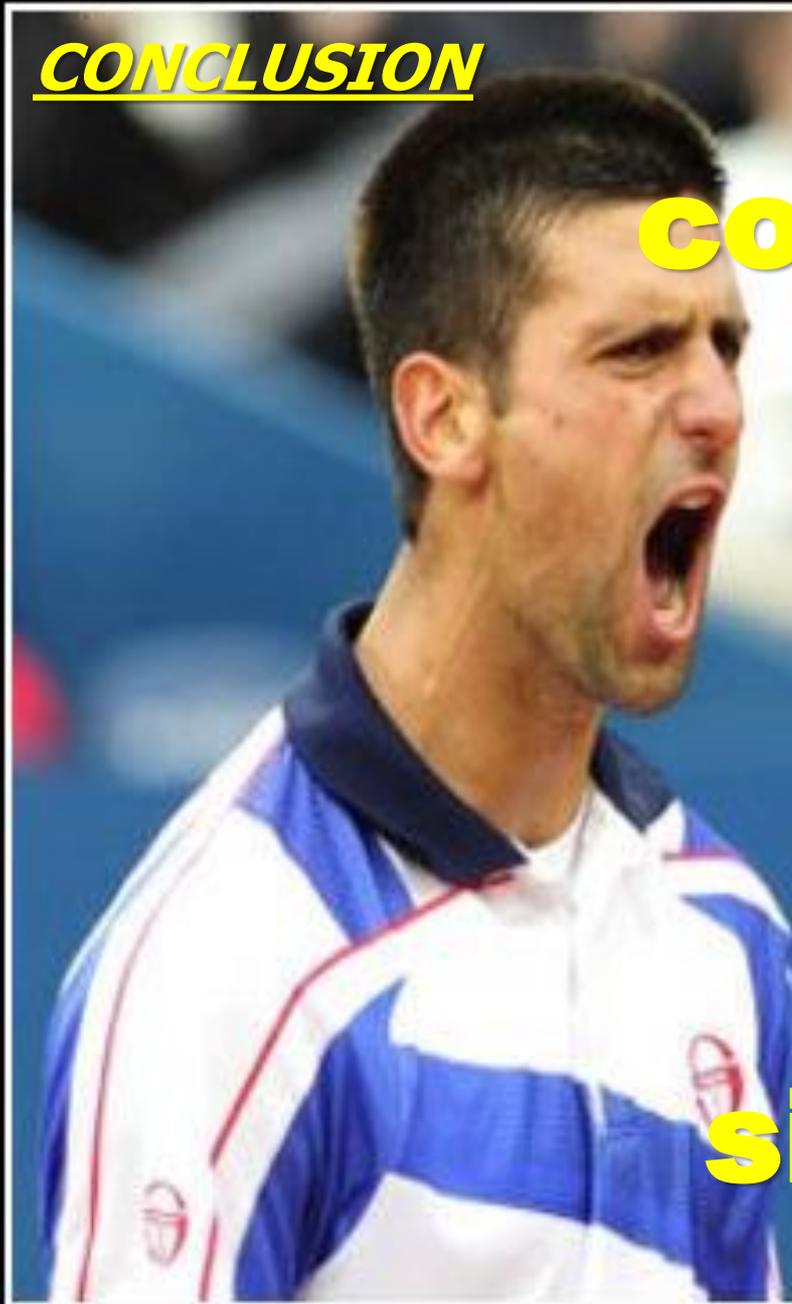
**Some biomarkers were common, such as elevation of TNF- $\alpha$ , interleukin-1 $\beta$ , interleukin-6, interleukin-8, interleukin-10, CRP, matrix metalloproteinase-9, copeptin and cortisol levels.**



**The results suggest that a history of alcohol abuse presents a risk for postoperative cognitive impairment in the domains of visuospatial abilities and executive functions that may have important implications for quality of life and health risks.**

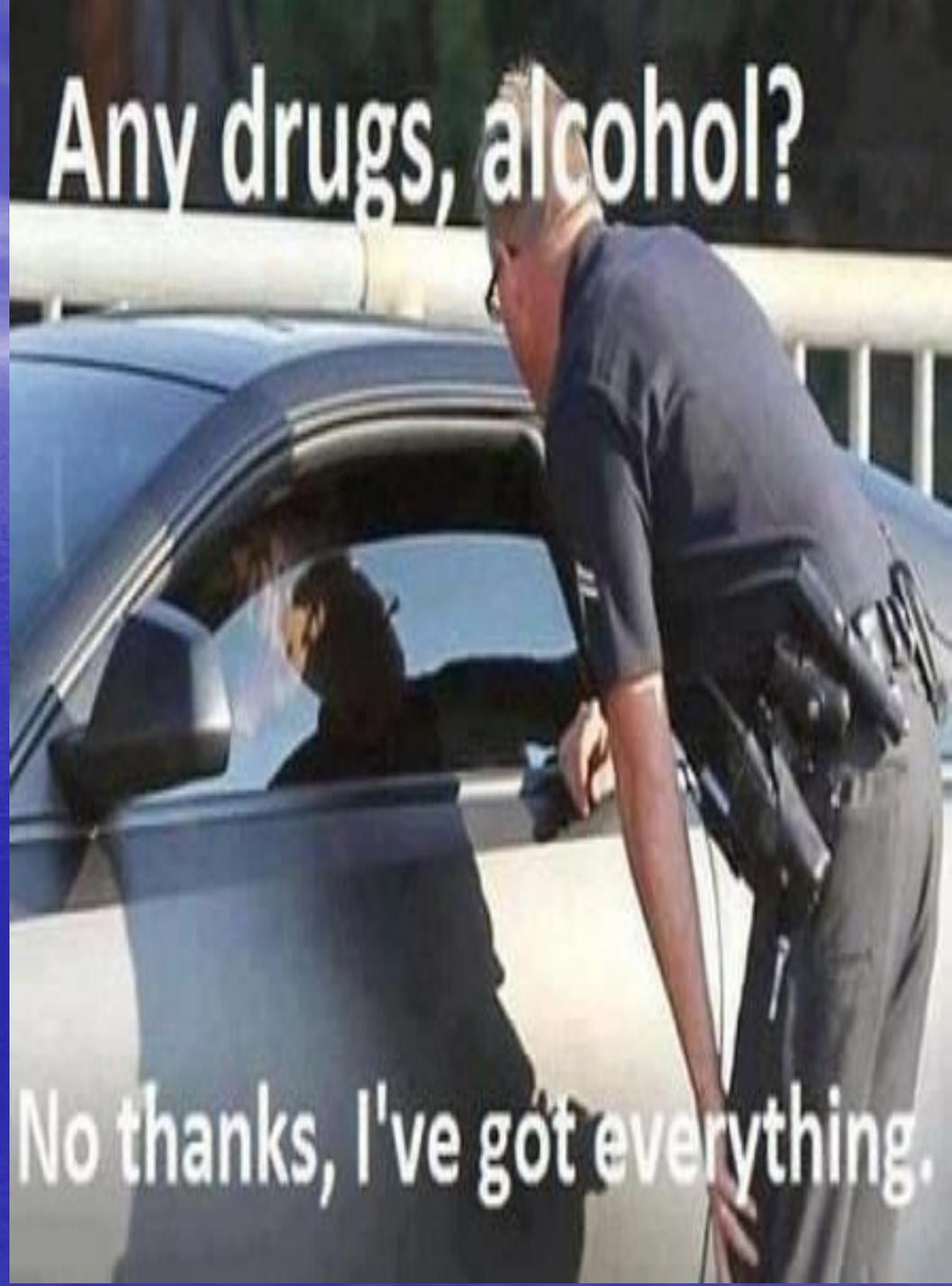
**CONCLUSION**

**Our results complement the data given by the World Health Organization and results of similar studies.**



**Literature data (US) point to the fact, that in 2050, the world will have over 70 million people older than 85 years.**

**But, today we are talking about young and middle age postoperative cognitive decline and delirium, after chronic alcohol consumption.**



**Monalisa after one week in NOVI SAD**



**Before**



**After**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !!!**