Smoking-associated factors in myocardial infarction and unstable angina: do gender differences exist?
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The aim of this study was to investigate demographic and psychological characteristics associated with smoking in patients with acute coronary syndrome (myocardial infarction or unstable angina). Interviews were conducted with 348 consecutive hospitalized patients with acute coronary syndrome and included questions about demographic characteristics, coffee consumption, heart disease risk perception, economic status, alcohol consumption, depression, anxiety, and stress. Female group multivariate analysis showed that smoking in females was significantly and negatively associated with age, heart disease risk perception, and positively associated with coffee consumption. Male group multivariate analysis showed that for males, smoking was significantly and negatively associated with age, heart disease risk perception, and positively associated with coffee and alcohol consumption. Unlike studies conducted with non-heart disease patients, our results do not show an association between smoking and depression. Compared with nonsmokers, smokers with acute coronary syndrome are younger, more likely to drink coffee, and less likely to perceive smoking as a heart disease risk. Male smokers are also more likely to drink alcohol, indicating that they use more psycho-stimulants than do nonsmoking men and women who smoke.
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