Introduction:
Patients suffering from acute intoxication, whether voluntarily for autolytic or accidental purposes, often require life support in intensive care units.

Methods:
Retrospective observational study of all patients admitted for acute intoxication who required admission to the ICU of the Regional Hospital of Malaga between January 2012 and August 2016, older than 14 years with admission to the ICU for intoxication of any kind. We study patient characteristics in terms of age, sex and medical history, type of toxicity, severity and evolution in our unit.

Results:
We found 70 cases of patients who required admission to the ICU due to acute intoxication, of which 55.6% were women. The average age was 47.36 (standard deviation 18.22). The average stay in ICU was 5.04 (standard deviation 8.09). 54.2% of patients had a psychiatric history. As other background highlights, 19.4% were addicted to illegal drugs and 25% were hypertensive. Most patients took more than one toxic 83.3% and intoxication was voluntary in 84.7% versus accidental in 12.5% of cases. The toxic was known in 68%. The most used benzodiazepines in 26.4% of the total. The main cause of admission to the ICU was due to neurological deterioration in 49 of the cases registered and mechanical ventilation was necessary in 44 patients. The maximum time in mechanical ventilation was 34 days. The infection occurred in 24.3%, with the majority being respiratory infection. The 4.7% died in ICU. The hospital stay presented an average of 9.3 days.

Conclusion:
The profile of a patient admitted to the ICU due to acute intoxication is that of a woman of middle age and psychiatric history, with voluntary intoxication of several toxic substances and requiring mechanical ventilation for a low level of consciousness for an average of 3 days. The survival is very high and it would be necessary to analyze the possible relapses of these patients.