

Poster session III

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Poster Session III: Alcoholism and Addiction

P0001

Peculiarities of tobacco smoking and addiction among psychiatric patients in Lithuania

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Smoking prevalence in psychiatric patients is two to three times higher than in the general population. Nicotine dependence meets the criteria for a psychiatric diagnosis, and is thus the psychiatric diagnosis with the highest premature mortality. Smoking cessation is not discussed routinely in psychiatry. One of the reasons is the presumption that the patients do not wish to quit smoking.

Objective: The aim of this study is to determine prevalence of tobacco-smoking and nicotine dependence among psychiatric patients; peculiarities of tobacco smoking and addiction according to diagnosis.

Methods: A population of 198 psychiatric inpatients and 211 psychiatric outpatient were surveyed using a detailed smoking self-questionnaire for smoking habits, Fagerström Questionnaire, questionnaire for estimating type of smoking behavior and HAD (Hospital Anxiety and Depression) scale.

Results: Smoking prevalence was higher among psychiatric patients than in general population. Correlations between level of nicotine dependence, types of smoking behavior and ICD-10 diagnoses were estimated. A significant proportion of psychiatric patients recognize that smoking is a problem, want to quit and would like attend smoking cessation therapy.

Conclusion: It was found that a majority of the patients wished to quit smoking, and that they would like to participate in a smoking cessation course.

There are many reasons why mentally ill persons may find it more difficult to quit smoking than mentally healthy smokers. Among the important reasons are: severe nicotine dependence, neurological

vulnerability, self-medication with nicotine, lack of support from the surroundings, use of ineffective smoking cessation methods.

P0002

Smoking among psychiatric inpatients in Lithuania

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P0003

Domestic Violence and child abuse as risk factors for heroin addiction

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Domestic violence, child abuse or witnessing family violence in the childhood are important risk factors for development of addiction during adolescence. Literature data demonstrate that around 70% of women included into addiction treatment programmes suffered or were witnesses of domestic violence. In those patients, addiction can be seen as auto-medication aiming at overcoming abuse-related emotions. In addition, child abuse can also be seen as extreme rejection by parents, leading to diminishing of emotional relationship and attachment between the child and parents, and subsequent development of close links with peers addicted to drugs.

We will present data on frequency and type of domestic violence and child abuse in the group of patients treated in the Day Hospital of the Institute for Addiction in Belgrade, demonstrating higher frequency of abuse/witnessing abuse in the group of heroin addicts compared to the control group.

P0004

Does Cannabis use affect prospective memory in teenagers and young adults?

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Aims: The present study examined whether recreational use of cannabis affected prospective memory ability in teenagers and young adults.

Methods: An independent measures design utilising pre-existing groups of cannabis users and non-users was employed in which an opportunity sample of 90 undergraduates studying at universities in the north east of England completed an objective video-based prospective memory task and a series of self-report questionnaires assessing failures in prospective memory, levels of anxiety and depression, use of strategies to assist remembering and recreational drug use.

Results: Analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) revealed no significant differences in the number of self-reported failures in prospective memory. Cannabis users, however, correctly recalled significantly fewer location-action combinations during the video-based prospective memory task than non-users. These findings were observed after controlling for age, level of anxiety and depression, use of strategies to assist remembering, and the use of other recreational drugs including alcohol, nicotine and ecstasy.

Conclusion: The findings from the objective prospective memory task in the present study suggest that recreational cannabis use has a detrimental effect on prospective memory ability in teenagers and young adults.

P0005

Pathological gambling and gender

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Background and Aims: Gender differences have been reported among pathological gamblers populations. These differences concern variables such as type of gambling (men are more likely engaged in “strategic gambling” whereas women prefer “non-strategic” gambling), evolution of the gambling problem (faster progression for women) and suicidal behaviours (more attempted suicide by women).

The aim of the present study is to investigate the relationship between gender and clinical status in a Swiss sample of treatment seeking pathological gamblers.

Method: Prospective descriptive study of 260 new outpatients entering treatment between October 1999 and October 2007 at the Center for Excessive Gambling Studies, Lausanne, Switzerland. Data are issued from standardised medical records. Gender differences were examined (Chi-squares and ANOVAs) on interval between first gambling behaviours and first specialized treatment, interval between pathological gambling onset and first specialized treatment, purpose of consulting, type of gambling (« strategic gambling » vs « nonstrategic gambling ») and suicidality.

Results and Discussion: In line with international findings, gender differences were observed on type of gambling, suicidality and interval between pathological gambling onset and first specialized treatment. A tendency emerged on interval between first gambling behaviours and first specialized treatment. As a new finding, we observed a difference on the purpose of consulting, with emotional crisis more reported by women whereas men are more likely to report familial crisis. Gender seems to be relevant in the context of pathological gambling and should be integrated in prevention and clinical strategies.

P0006

Gender-associated patterns of heroin addiction in adolescents

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Objective: To study influence of gender specific of formation of heroin addiction (HA) on prognosis and therapy in adolescents.

Material and Methods: We have examined 140 patients with HA (15-20 years), among these we have distinguished 4 groups with various gender types (GT). Control – healthy adolescents.

Methods: clinical and sexological scales, W. Stephenson’s Q-sorting scale, cluster analysis of gender parameters (biological sex, valuable orientations, sexual experience, and social status. We have studied efficacy of paroxetine at week 2, 4 of application at dose 20 mg a day.

Results: In cluster analysis of gender parameters we have distinguished 4 masculine and 4 feminine types of formation of HA. Masculine types of HA: 1. Gender-dominant type (GDT). 2. Gender-independent type (GIDT). 3. Gender-partner type (GPT). 4. Gender-integrating type (GIT). Feminine types of HA: 1. Gender-repressive type (GRT). 2. Gender-independent type (GIDT). 3. Gender-partner type (GPT). 4. Gender-utilitarian type (GUT). Therapy: Efficacy of the paroxetine is maximal from post-withdrawal period in masculine GPT and GIDT. Number of patients with 50% reduction of scores according to scales HAM-A and HAM-D(17) was at visit 3 - 62,8% (in group of comparison – 31,7) and 32,6% (27,3%), at visit 4 – 81,3% (59,1) and 69,8% (54,2%), respectively. Addicted boys have more favorable prognosis than girls. Prognostically favorable for boys are GIDT and GIT, in co-dependent girls - GRT. Adverse type in boys is GDT and in girls – GUT.

Conclusion: Formation of HA in adolescents has gender-associated types with different prognoses and therapy.

P0007

Consumption of alcohol from adolescents students of school in Greece

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Introduction: The alcohol is the most frequent substance, which become use of and abuse between the adolescents.