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Academic Outcomes and Drug Addiction Among Young Moroccan Students

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Introduction: A recent study suggests that the correlation between substance use and academic performance was positive at the school level¹. As well, it is widely discussed in the literature that regular cannabis use increases the risk of learning difficulties².

Objective: to study the relationship between regular drug use and academic outcomes of young students of a vocational training institute in Mohammedia (North West of Morocco).

Subjects and methods: The present study is a cross-sectional study conducted among 441 Moroccan students of vocational institute in Mohammedia (NW of Morocco), aged 18 to 25 years. Addiction status is evaluated by the CRAFFT-ADOSPA questionnaire and the academic achievements are recorded using the annual average (academic year: 2013-2014).

Results: The results showed that the most commonly used drug is cannabis. Moreover, out of a total of 441 students, 29.5% are regular drug users, 10.8% of them are girls. More, 24.5% of these addicted students had academic achievements below the average and, 69% of students ranked bottom of the class are among the drug addicts.

Conclusion: Academic achievements appeared to be negatively influenced by regular drug use among students. However, deeper statistical studies are needed.

¹Fernando H. Andrade, Co-occurrences between adolescent substance use and academic performance: School context influences a multilevel-longitudinal perspective. *Journal of Adolescence*, Volume 37, Issue 6, August 2014, Pages 953-963.

²Dominique Lopez et Daniel Sansfaçon, Dommages sociaux liés à l'usage de drogues : focus sur les relations et difficultés familiales, *revue toxibase* n° 20 - 4e trimestre 2005.