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Topic: EPV31 - e-Poster 31: Schizophrenia

Substance Use and Early Psychosis Course

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OBJECTIVES: Substance abuse is a well established risk factor for First-Episode Psychosis (FEP). We hypothesized that substance use at baseline could be an independent risk factor for a worse clinical course. **METHODS:** An incidence cohort of patients with FEP collected in an 8 year period (2002-2009) at the Bologna West Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) was assessed at baseline and at 12 month follow-up. Hospitalizations were used as clinical outcomes. **RESULTS:** Substance users had a significantly higher rate of hospitalizations during the follow-up after adjusting for age, gender and other potential confounders (OR 5.84, 95% CI 2.44-13.97, $p \leq 0.001$). **CONCLUSIONS:** This study showed the independent effect of substance use on FEP course. Clinical implications will be discussed.

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