

(EFs) and (b) gaming urge. We mainly searched the PubMed and Web of Science databases using relevant keywords. All retrieved literature were assessed for eligibility to reduce selection biases.

**Results:** Our preliminary review identified that GD features prominent deficits in EFs, including cognitive inflexibility, poor response inhibition, altered decision-making, and intensified susceptibility to game-related stimuli. These deficits were found to be associated with abnormal neural activity in brain regions subserving EFs and reward-based learning. Hence, excessive gaming may maladaptively suppress controlled and conscious processing, which can amplify automatic and implicit processes to develop gaming urges. In addition, many of these neuropsychological deficits have been observed in other addictions and seemingly unrelated disorders such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Similar EF deficits have been identified in ASD, which involve reduced cognitive flexibility and related dysfunction, including excessive attention focus, restricted interest, maladaptive reward processing, and reduced self-control. However, there is considerable variation among individuals and study methods, which requires more comprehensive research strategies.

**Conclusions:** We elucidated comparable cognitive features among individuals with GD, addiction disorders, and ASD. These similarities provide clues regarding GD etiology, ideas for improving preventative therapies, and markers for risk evaluation. Additional investigations on how GD and other disorders possess similar and distinctive cognitive functions are worth pursuing. It is also crucial to further examine the extent of shared cognitive features in the general population, wherein the peripheral pathological characteristics lie on a continuum with typical and atypical populations.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

## EPP0548

### Depressive disorders and intravenous drug use in chemsex context

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**Introduction:** Several studies have called attention to the mental health disorders associated with chemsex -the intentional use of drugs before or during sexual intercourse GBMSM (gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men) population-. Sexualized intravenous drug use is also known as slam or slamsex. There are few studies that analyze the mental health differences between intravenous drug users compared to non-intravenous drug users in chemsex context.

**Objectives:** We aim to describe the mental health outcomes including current and past depressive disorders diagnosis in a sample of users with sexualized drug use (chemsex) attended by the non-governmental organization Apoyo Positivo in the program “Sex, Drugs and You” and to compare the differences of current and previous diagnosis of depressive disorders between intravenous drug users compared to non-intravenous drug users.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional descriptive analysis of a sample of users attended by the non-governmental organization Apoyo Positivo in the program “Sex, Drugs and You” between 2016-2019 was performed.

**Results:** We included 217 participants. Current or past diagnosis of depression was found in 137 participants. Depressive disorders were significantly higher in the intravenous drug use group compared to the non-intravenous drug use group ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusions:** Our study reports high levels of depression in chemsex users. The participants in our sample who engaged in intravenous drug use presented a higher frequency of depressive disorders than non intravenous drug use participants. Further studies analyzing the relationship between chemsex, slamsex and depression are needed. A multidisciplinary team is necessary to address chemsex and provide care and mental health treatment to chemsex users.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

## Anxiety Disorders and Somatoform Disorders

### EPP0549

#### Prevalence of Generalized Anxiety Disorder Among Five European Countries Before and During COVID

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**Introduction:** Globally, there is a mental health crisis, and anxiety is the most prevalent mental health condition. However, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (COVID) on generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) prevalence has not been quantified across European countries, and such impact could establish a new baseline of GAD estimates in European countries.

**Objectives:** To assess GAD by severity level before and during COVID in 5 European countries, using the 7-Item GAD Questionnaire (GAD-7).

**Methods:** Adults (age 18+) in France, Germany, UK, Italy, and Spain completed a short survey in May 2020 to assess the impact of COVID on their mental health. All respondents had previously participated in the National Health and Wellness Survey, a nationally representative survey of the adult general population in each country, before COVID (December 2019–March 2020). In both surveys, respondents completed the GAD-7. GAD symptoms were defined by GAD-7 score as mild (5-9), moderate (10-14), and severe GAD ( $\geq 15$ ). Positive screen was defined as GAD-7 score  $\geq 10$ . Positive screen and GAD symptom severity prevalence were reported for the pooled European sample and by country, both before and during COVID. Chi-square and McNemar’s tests were used to evaluate the difference in GAD severity across countries and changes over baseline in GAD positive screen during COVID. P-values were reported for both tests.

**Results:** In total, 2401 adults were included in analysis (France,  $n=482$ ; Germany,  $n=487$ ; UK,  $n=487$ ; Italy,  $n=474$ ; Spain,  $n=471$ ). Prior to COVID, 311 (13%) screened positive for GAD, with 208 (9%) moderate and 103 (4%) severe in the pooled European sample. During COVID, the distribution of GAD symptoms almost