

find case studies of anti-depressive dependence, which show amphetamine effects. In what concerns other anti-depressives, the information is rare, specifically about tianeptine. The few case studies reported until now, focus the psychostimulant effect as being the cause of the abuse and dependence. Though, a study case is described of a female patient, with 40 years old, previous history of alcohol abuse, who takes approximately 40 cigarettes per day and 10 coffee per day. She presents an history of tianeptine abuse for several years, which has become more severe in the last six months (1286 mg/day) and resulted in the third psychiatric hospitalization. The patient experiences and seeks for a psychostimulant effect and physically energizing through the excessive consumption of the drug. This tianeptine abuse is also accompanied by an excessive consumption of benzodiazepines (30 mg/day of bromazepam). Over the course of the hospitalization, we did not find physical symptoms and signs of withdrawal. Hepatic parameters were not affected. The authors concluded that the abuse and dependence of tianeptine seems to be an important problem in patients with history of abuse and/or dependence of other substances. Thus, this treatment and the implications that it may have in this population need more investigation.

P0018

Psychiatric comorbidity in patients with substance dependence – Experience from Kashmir

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Kashmir has observed increase in number of Substance dependence patients due to various factors like easy availability of drugs, drugs smuggled across border, unemployment but most importantly present disturbed conditions for last two decades. Drug use appears to have an important role in vulnerability to development of psychiatric disorders and vice versa. Substance dependence Patients with comorbid psychiatric disorders are difficult to treat. A methodical, staged screening and assessment can ease the diagnostic challenge of distinguishing the symptoms of psychiatric disorders from manifestations of substance intoxication and withdrawal. This study was carried out on total of 300 substance dependence patients who were screened for psychiatric disorders by DSM IV based MINI Plus interview. The statistical analysis of the data was done by using Chi-square test χ^2 test. The study revealed that 58% (n=174) had psychiatric comorbidity, Most of these patients with dual diagnosis of psychiatric Disorders and substance dependence 87.35% (n=152) belonged to < 38 year age group. Majority were males 95.40% (n=166) and unmarried/divorced 64.36% (n=112), Illiterate patients outnumbered educated 45.97% (n=80). Most of the patients in this study were unemployed 41.37% (n=72). Peer group pressure / curiosity (54.02%) were the most common precipitating factor followed by the traumatic stress (12.64%). Most common substances used by these dually diagnosed patients were cannabis (37.93%) followed by combination of Opioids & benzodiazepines (32.75%). Commonly associated psychiatric disorders were psychotic disorders (33.90%), mood disorders (32.18%) & post traumatic stress disorders (PTSD) in 11.49 %.

P0019

Anxiety disorders in substance dependence patients- Sociodemographic and relationship characteristics

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Substance dependence (SD) is one of the commonest comorbidities among patients with Anxiety Disorders (AD). Treating patients' co-occurring Anxiety disorders may reduce their substance craving and taking and enhance their over all outcomes. A methodical, staged screening and assessment can ease the diagnostic challenge of distinguishing the symptoms of anxiety disorders from manifestations of substance intoxication and withdrawal. This study was carried out on total of 561 substance dependence patients who were screened for Anxiety disorders by DSM IV based MINI Plus interview. The statistical analysis of the data was done by using Chi-square test χ^2 test. The study revealed that 62.56% (n=351) had psychiatric comorbidity, with Anxiety disorders comorbid in 27.35% (n=96) dually diagnosed patients. Out of these 96 patients with comorbid anxiety disorders, 44.79% (n=43) had PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), 30.20% (n=29) had GAD (Generalized Anxiety Disorder), 13.54% (n=13) had OCD (Obsessive Compulsive disorder) and 11.45% (n=11) had panic disorder as comorbid diagnosis. Most of these patients with dual diagnosis of Anxiety Disorders and substance dependence 69.79% (n=67) belonged to < 35 year age group. Majority were males and unmarried. Illiterate patients outnumbered educated. Most of the patients in this study were unemployed. Most common substances used by these dually diagnosed patients were cannabis followed by combination of opioids & benzodiazepines.

P0020

Internet addiction, prevalence and epidemiological features: First study in Iran

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Background and Aims: The concept of Internet addiction, also called Internet addictive disorder or pathological Internet use, entered the medical lexicon in 1995. To investigate the prevalence of Internet addiction among north Iranian Internet users and to explore the epidemiological features associated with Internet addiction, for the first time in Iran, this study performed.

Methods: A total of 1856 Internet user volunteers' from Mazandaran province cities were surveyed using Farsi version of Young's Internet Addiction Questionnaire during 2005_2006. Data analysis was done using the SPSS 13.0 Win Program for descriptive and correlational statistics.

Results: Total of 424 Dependents was in our sample. The incidence rate of Internet addiction was 22.8%. Dependents spent an M = 14.42, SD = 13.74 hours per week compared to Non-Dependents who spent M = 9, SD = 10.37 hours per week (P<0.001). The sample of Dependents included 256 males and 165 females (P<0.001). Mean±SD of Income Used for On-line Service Fees was 30.11±25.27 percent in Dependent group and 18.90±20.79 in Non-Dependent group (P<0.001). Dependents predominantly used the two-way communication functions available on the Internet like chat rooms (P<0.001).

Conclusions: The present study suggests that Internet addiction is frequent among northern Iranian Internet users. In addition, chat rooms are most addictive web environment in this population. The results have important implications for further studies of prevalence, implementation of preventive measures, and the development of treatment approaches for Internet addiction.