

P01-271

MANAGEMENT OF INTERNET ADDICTION WITH COMORBID PSYCHIATRIC
CONDITION IN ROMANIAN CHILDREN

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This article discusses how a treatment protocol should emphasize the primary psychiatric condition if related to a subsequent impulse control problem such as pathological Internet use.

Objective : The purpose of this study is to investigate issues related to clinical analysis of patients with IAD (internet addiction disorder), we focusing on clinical, demographic features, and comorbidities.

Method: The survey included a representative sample of 543 school students of ages 11 to 18. All of the students answered to a questionnaire comprising 36 questions related to computer activities. Ten girls and 22 boys constituted the sample of Internet addicts. All participants were diagnosed based on psychiatric diagnostic interview and psychiatric scales.

Results : Clinical diagnoses included depression 25%, attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder 18,75%, social phobia 15,62%, generalized anxiety disorder 12,5%, obsessive compulsive disorder 6,25%, comorbital disorder 15,62%, 6,25% met criteria for eating disorder. Severity measures of IAD were associated with higher perception of family disability ($P \leq .001$)

Conclusion : With these results, it seems reasonable to suggest that effective evaluation of, and treatment for comorbidities disorders is required for students with Internet addiction. Effective management of psychiatric symptoms may indirectly correct pathological Internet use.