

P-303 - INTERNET ADDICTION DISORDER AMONG ADOLESCENT STUDENTS

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Background: The Internet addiction disorder(IAD) is conceptualized by an individuals inability to control his or her use of the internet which causes marked distress &/functional impairment.

Aim: It was a cross-sectional study with aimed to find out the proportion of IAD among adolescent students & association of age,sex, educational level with addiction as well as relation of Internet addiction(IA) to different internet related activities & to determine severity of addiction.

Methods: The study was conducted purposively from 5 schools & 7 colleges of Dhaka City of Bangladesh from January to June 2011.In total of 797 students(438 were male,359 were female, mean age:16.47± 1.21 years) of grade IX,X & XII were recruited. A self-administered questionnaire & Young's Internet addiction scale were applied.

Results: Among 797 students,161(20.20%) were found as IAD. Out of 797 respondents,40.15% were school (Grade IX & X) & 59.85% were college students(Grade XII).IA were identified more among elderly adolescent(16-18 years) students(22.6%) & male students were more addicted(24.4%) than female students(15%).There was no relation found between educational level & IA. Association between information seeking behavior($p < 0.05$) & chatting($p < 0.01$) with IA found but no relation with e-mail, face book & Instant message were established. Among 161 adolescent students who were identified as IAD,60(37.3%) were average user,96(59.6%) were occasional/frequent problematic & 5(3.1%) had significant problem.

Conclusion: This study demonstrated that IA presents among Bangladeshi urban adolescent students. It will create awareness among teachers, parents, policy maker & students about this addiction.