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COMORBIDITY OF SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND SCHIZOPHRENIA AND MOOD DISORDERS

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Individuals with a severe mental illness and substance use disorders tend to have medical and social problems and those who have either disorder alone. Nevertheless, little attention has been paid to the discovery of effective methods of modifying substance use in the mentally ill.

The purpose of this study was to examine the prevalence of substance use in schizophrenia and mood disorders.

Methods & materials: In a cross-sectional descriptive study, patients meeting DSM-IV criteria for schizophrenia (n=30) and mood disorder (n=30) randomly selected in two psychiatric hospital in Shiraz, Iran, and a control group (30) randomly selected in normal population without history of psychiatric disorders; completed questionnaire for substance use .

Results: Results showed %40 of patients with schizophrenia, %36.6 of subjects with mood disorders and % 36.6 of control group had substance use disorder.

Conclusion: These data suggest that schizophrenia and mood disorders can lead to substance use disorders. Also, in our study high rate of substance use in control group is an alarm. Since substance is caused by and can cause psychiatric disorders and substance use can effect various aspects of social life.