Risk Factors for Psychoactive Substance Use Disorders Among Adolescent Students in Assiut Governorate, Egypt.

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Objective: The aim of the present study was to estimate aetiology and risk factors for psychoactive substances among adolescent students in Assiut Governorate, Egypt

Methods: This study was cross sectional community survey conducted during academic year (2010 - 2011). The sample size was 5476 students from preparatory and secondary schools were subjected to a standardized questionnaire of substance misuse questionnaire of Egypt in an Arabic version and modified Arabic version of socioeconomic scale .

Results: 22.9 % of sample stated that they used psychoactive substance. Peak age of onset was among students between 11-15 (61%), followed by 16-19 (31%) and lastly less than 10 (8%). Students raised in Nuclear families reported higher prevalence (83.92%) than those in Extended families (16.08%). Substance use disorder was prevalent in students with first Order of birth (38.85%) and then last (30.90%). Substance use was prevalent in students with moderate socioeconomic status (67.12%),then with low (16.64%) and with high (16.24%). According to beliefs of substance users toward substance, 30.18% believed it makes person euphoric, 23.25% it make person lives in world of dreams, 23.81% it makes person works for long time.

Conclusion: Risk factors for adolescent substance use disorders represent psychosocial continuum begin from representing levels of exposure to anything like a 'drug atmosphere'