

examinations, and consequently the improvement of his interpersonal relationships.

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Ethylone: A synthetic cathinone emerging in Barcelona

M. de Dios^{1,*}, E. Monteagudo¹, A. Trabsa¹, M. Grifell¹, L. Galindo², P. Quintana³, A. Palma², M. Ventura⁴, D. Sanagustin², S. Pérez¹, M. Torrens¹

¹ Institut de Neuropsiquiatria i Addiccions, Psychiatry, Barcelona, Spain

² Institut de Neuropsiquiatria i Addiccions, Psiquiatria, Barcelona, Spain

³ Energy Control, Asociación Bienestar y Desarrollo, Psiquiatria, Barcelona, Spain

⁴ Energy Control, Asociación Bienestar y Desarrollo, Energy Control, Asociación Bienestar y Desarrollo, Barcelona, Spain

* Corresponding author.

Introduction Synthetic cathinones, the active component in “bath salts”, have surfaced as a popular alternative to other illicit drugs of abuse, such as cocaine, MDMA (ecstasy), and methamphetamine, due to their potent psychostimulant and empathogenic effects.

Objectives To describe the presence of Ethylone in samples delivered to energy control from 2014 to 2015 in Spain.

Methods The total number of samples analyzed from 2014 to 2015 was 8324. Only those samples containing ethylone were studied. They were analyzed by energy control, a Spanish harm reduction NGO that offers the possibility of analysing the substances that users report. Analysis was done by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry.

Results From June 2014 to December 2015, 8324 samples were delivered to EC. From this samples 28 (0.336%) contained ethylone. Twelve (0.144%) were delivered as MDMA, representing a 0.783% of the samples delivered as such, and only one sample (0.012%) delivered as MDMA presented ethylone as an adulterant along with MDMA. Other 6 samples (0.072%) were delivered as ethylone and 10 samples (0.120%) were delivered as unknown pills.

Discussion Ethylone consumption is found to be an emerging issue according to the results of our samples, an increase of such is found during 2015. This might be traduced as an increase of ethylone in the drug market, but a sample selection bias should be considered as samples were voluntary delivered by consumers. An alarming phenomenon is that in some occasions ethylone is sold as MDMA, but effects take longer to occur and last longer, which may lead to an overdose if used as MDMA.

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Psychometric evaluation of the Slovenian translation of the Circumstances, Motivation and Readiness Scales

M. Delic^{1,*}, K. Kajdiz¹, P. Pregelj²

¹ University Psychiatric Hospital Ljubljana, Center for Treatment of Drug Addiction, Ljubljana, Slovenia

² University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, Ljubljana, Slovenia

* Corresponding author.

Introduction According to the available data, treatment motivation and readiness are closely linked to retention. There are

instruments for measuring the stages of motivation and readiness, and predicting treatment retention and outcome.

Aim This study describes psychometric properties, while focusing on the reliability of the Slovenian version of the Circumstances, Motivation and Readiness (CMR) scales.

Methods We included 109 male and female patients with opioid addiction at the Centre for Treatment of Drug Addiction, Ljubljana. The CMR was translated into Slovenian by using the “forward-backward” procedure by our team and its author. Data analysis addressed psychometric properties of the CMR. Internal consistency was examined by applying exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis, while reliability was examined with Cronbach's coefficient alpha.

Results Cronbach alpha coefficients of reliability were calculated for each of the three CMR subscales and for the total score. The total alpha was 0.842. Alpha for Motivation was 0.860, for Circumstances 0.372 and for Readiness 0.818. Exploratory factor analysis extracted a 3-factor solution with 56% explained total variance. The factors do not provide an exact match with the dimensions C, M and R.

Conclusion On the basis of these results we can conclude that the Slovenian translation of the CMR is a valid instrument for evaluating patients' motivation and readiness for treatment.

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Czech gamblers view on luck as the cause of uncontrollable events

T. Dlhosova^{1,*}, R. Kundt²

¹ Masaryk University, Department of Psychology, Brno, Czech Republic

² Masaryk University, Department for the Study of Religion, Brno, Czech Republic

* Corresponding author.

The belief in deterministic luck is considered to be one of the factors contributing to maintenance of gambling behavior. This belief was found to be stronger during the gamble situation in problematic gamblers than non-problematic. The present study deals with the difference in luck attribution between the Czech gamblers and the control group. The main goal was to find out whether the difference between belief in luck is also present in non-gamble situation. A questionnaire containing the Belief in luck and luckiness scale and 14 stories of uncontrollable events was administered to 30 pathological gamblers and 30 matched participant (by age, education, gender and nationality), who did not play any hazard games regularly. In uncontrollable events participants chose from non-material causes (luck, chance, god, destiny) one they believed to be the best fit. Results have shown a statistically significant difference between gamblers and control group in the way of attributing the causes. Control group has chosen significantly more “chance” option meanwhile gamblers opted for luck, God and destiny. There was no statistically significant difference in explicitly formulated belief in luck. It seems that the stronger causal attribution of luck, god and destiny in pathological gamblers compared to non-gamblers are not restricted only to gaming situations. Rather we can find it in other uncontrollable events as well. The absence of the difference between patients and control group in explicit belief in luck measured by questionnaire could be pointing to the stronger effect of the treatment for explicit belief than for more subtle causal attributing.

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