Substance Use Disorder: Impact of Childhood Abuse

Thesis
Submitted for partial fulfillment of M.Sc. degree in Neuropsychiatry
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2014

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Almighty God who by his will this work was accomplished and for everything.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors:

Prof. Dr. Abdelnasser Omar Professor of psychiatry, Ain shams University for his moral and scientific support and for giving me the honor of working under his supervision.

Prof. Dr. Afaf Mohamed Abd El Samei Professor of psychiatry, Ain shams University for her constructive and instructive comments without her generous help, this work would not have been accomplished in its present picture.

Assistant Prof. Dr. Sohair Helmy Elghonemy Assistant Professor of psychiatry Ain shams University for her professional and competent guidance, enthusiasm, unfailing support and unwavering assistance in the completion of this treatise.

My dear friends, at Abou Elazayem Psychiatric Hospital whom my deepest gratitude is owed, for being available when the journey was frustrating and also when it was joyful; for offering support, advice and encouragement and walking the treatise road with me.

My many friends and family members who offered words of encouragement throughout this process, especially my parents, my brother and sister whose infinite support throughout my numerous years of studying are truly appreciated.

Words cannot describe my gratefulness and gratitude to my wife for her help and patients

My sons, Adam and Omar, for their laughter and hugs.

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List of Abbreviations

APA : American Psychiatric Association
ASPD : Antisocial Personality Disorder
BPD : Borderline personality Disorder
CPA : Childhood Physical Abuse
CSA : Childhood Sexual Abuse
DSM-IV : Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 4th edition
PA : Physical Abuse
PTSD : Post traumatic stress abuse
SA : Sexual Abuse
SUDs : Substance Use Disorders
SUPs : Substance Use Patients
UNODC : United Nations office on Drugs and crime
WHO : World Health Organization
WHO-EMRO: World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
ASI : Addiction Severity Index
SCID-I : Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV
SCID-II : Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV
CTQ : Childhood Trauma Questionnaire
PDs : Personality Disorders

Introduction

&

Aim of the work

Introduction And Aim of the work

Child abuse is a huge global problem. Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that about 40 million children aged 0-14 years around the world suffer from abuse and neglect that require health and social care. **(WHO, 2006).**

Child abuse is generally defined as any act of commission or, in the case of neglect, omission that endangers or impairs a child's physical, developmental, and emotional well-being **(Portwood, 1998)**.

In Egypt, According to **Mansour et al. 2010** the prevalence of child abuse in 963 cases study is: Physical neglect (44%), Emotional neglect (19%), Sexual abuse (13%) Emotional abuse (8.9%) and Physical abuse (6%)

Cases of child abuse represent the "tip of the iceberg" of the real phenomenon, where only a small proportion would be seen "above the surface". There is incomplete and inconsistent information on the prevalence of maltreatment, its sociodemographic risk factors, and its relationship to future health **(Pinheiro, PS. 2006)**

The impact of child abuse and neglect is often discussed in terms of physical, psychological, behavioral, and societal consequences. In reality, however, it is impossible to separate them completely. Physical consequences (such as damage to a child's growing brain) can have psychological implications for example:

cognitive delays or emotional difficulties. Psychological problems often manifest as high-risk behaviors. Depression and anxiety, may make a person more likely to smoke, abuse alcohol or illicit drugs. **(Childwelfare, 2008.)**

The psychological effects of child abuse and neglect may lead to alcohol and drug abuse problems in adolescence and adulthood **(Perkins & Jones, 2004)**. Evidence suggests that all types of child maltreatment are significantly related to higher levels of substance use (tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs) **(Moran & Hall, 2004)**. In surveying public school students in Grades 6, 9 and 12 in the United States, **Harrison & colleagues** found that experiences of physical or sexual abuse increased the likelihood of students using alcohol, marijuana and other drugs. A further study in the United States found that 28% of physically abused adolescents used drugs compared to 14% of non-abused adolescents. Compared to 22% of the non-abused group, 36% of physically abused adolescents also had high levels of alcohol use **(Perkins & Jones, 2004).**

Research consistently reflects an increased likelihood that abused and neglected children will smoke cigarettes, abuse alcohol, or take illicit drugs during their lifetime **(Dube et al., 2001)**. According to a report from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, as many as two-thirds

of people in drug treatment programs reported being abused as children **(Swan, 1998)**.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) estimated that between 172 and 250 million people aged 15–64 years had used an illicit drug at least once in 2007 **(UNODC, 2009)**.

In Egypt the National Council for Fighting and Treating Addiction (NCFTA) reported at least 8.5% of Egyptian population, amounting to six million people, are addicted to drugs the majority of are aged between 15 and 25 years old. Bango, a type of marijuana is the drug of choice, but cocaine, heroin and chemical drugs like ecstasy and methamphetamine are also widely used. About 439,000 children are regular drug users in Egypt, 12.2% of Egypt's students dependent on drugs, 9% smoke Bango, 3% prefer hashish and 0.21% take heroin or chemical drugs, **(NCFTA, 2010)**

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Egypt's location makes it a transit point for drug trafficking from major production areas in South East Asia and Europe. **(UNODC 2005)**

Drug addiction is a chronically relapsing disorder that is defined by two major characteristics: a compulsion to take the drug with a narrowing of the behavioral repertoire toward excessive drug intake, and a loss of

control in limiting intake **(Koob G.F. & Moal M. Le, 2001).**

Early psychoanalytic formulations postulated that drug users, in general, suffered from either a special form of affective dysregulation (tense depression) that was alleviated by drug use or from a disorder of impulse control in which the search for pleasure was dominant. More-recent formulations postulate ego defects, which are evinced by the addict's inability to manage painful affects (guilt, anger, anxiety) and to avoid preventable medical, legal, and financial problems. The newer formulations postulating ego defects are to some degree the older formulations with a modest change in terminology that gives greater weight to the inability to cope with painful affects than to the intensity or abnormality of the affects per se. It is postulated that some substances pharmacologically and symbolically aid the ego in controlling those affects and that their use can be viewed as a form of self-medication. **(Koob & Le Moal, 1997)**

Hypothesis:

Those who had suffered from childhood abuse either (emotional, physical, sexual & neglect) are more likely to experience substance use problem during their adulthood and more subjected to suffer from complications which necessitate medical attention.

Aim of the work:

To identify the relationship between history of childhood abuse and the current substance use disorder in a sample of SUD Egyptian patients and severity of associated complications

Chapter

1

Child Abuse