

Gender Differences in Clinical and Sociodemographic Pattern of Substance Use Disorder

Thesis

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Presented by

Fatma Mohamed Nabil Ezzat
(M.B.B.Ch)

Under the supervision of

Dr. Mahmoud Mamdouh Elhabiby

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
Faculty of Medicine-Ain Shams University

Dr. Hanan Hany Elrassas

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
Faculty of Medicine-Ain Shams University

Dr. Mahmoud Hassan Ali Morsi

Lecturer of Psychiatry
Faculty of Medicine-Ain Shams University

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قالوا

سبحانك لا علم لنا
إلا ما علمتنا إنك أنت
العليم العظيم

صدق الله العظيم

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List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbr.</i>	<i>Full-term</i>
ADHD	: Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.
APA	: American Psychiatric Association.
AUD	: Alcohol use disorder.
CDC	: Centers of Disease control and prevention.
CUD	: Cannabinoids Use Disorder.
DALYs	: Disability-adjusted life years.
dMSNs	: Direct pathway striatal neurons.
DSM	: Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders.
EMR	: Eastern Mediterranean Region.
HCV	: Hepatitis c virus.
HICs	: High-income countries.
HUD	: Heroin Use Disorder.
ICD	: International classification of disease.
iMSNs	: Indirect pathway striatal neurons.
LMICs	: Low and middle income countries.
MDA	: Methylene-dioxyamphetamine.
MDMA	: Methylene-dioxymethamphetamine related disorder.
NIDA	: National Institute of Drug Abuse.

NIH	: National institution of health.
NSDUH	: National Survey on Drug Use and Health.
NHSDA	: National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.
PFC	: Prefrontal cortex.
SAMHSA	: Substance abuse and mental health service administration.
SD	: Standard deviation.
SDs	: Synthetic drugs.
SMR	: Standardized mortality ratio.
SUD	: Substance use disorders.
TED	: Treatment episode data set.
TUD	: Tramadol Use Disorder.
USDHHS	: United States Department of Health and Human Services.
WHO	: World Health Organization.

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Abstract

Background: Substance use disorder (SUD) is a significant public health concern and is one among the most common psychiatric disorders beginning in young adulthood. The history of substance abuse is as old as mankind itself; recently it has become a global problem that is influenced by social, economic, political, and psychosocial factors, scientist have long noted an association between social relationships and health. **Aim of the Work:** to analyze and discuss similarities and difference between the genders in substance use disorder, highlighting severity of substance use disorder in both male and female focusing on comorbidity of substance use disorder in both male and female. **Subjects and methods:** This cross sectional descriptive study was conducted on a sample of 117 addict patient (39 f and 78 m) who seek a treatment in Egyptian psychiatric hospitals. The Sample was collected from inpatient and outpatient department of Ain Shams Psychiatric hospital, Heliopolis (Almatar) Psychiatric Hospital and Alabasseyah Psychiatric hospital. **Results:** the study revealed a statistically significant difference in various parameters as the mean age of abuse was higher among men than women with longer duration of life time and last 30 days intake compared to females. As regard marital status, married men percentage was lower in comparison to females who had a higher percentage of divorces. Regarding educational level, more females completed primary level but more males completed to tertiary diploma and higher percentage compared with females. Males abuse was more physically and emotionally but females exposed to more sexual abuse. Legal problems were higher in males as violation and drug charge compared to the females. On the other hand, job and dealing drugs as a source of money for drugs were mainly in males but females gained money mainly from the family or prostitution. Men showed higher rates of HCV infection than female. **Conclusion:** there is a clear difference between men and women in many of the points covered in this study, which confirms that there must be different programs developed specifically for women and not as sometimes happens by the application of treatment programs addiction to men, which leads to the consequences of unsatisfactory For female patients as well as those involved in the treatment of addiction.

Key words: gender differences, clinical pattern, sociodemographics, substance use disorder

Introduction

The essential feature of a substance use disorder is a cluster of cognitive, behavioral, and physiological symptoms indicating that the individual continue using the substance despite significant substance-related problem. Substance use disorder occur in a broad range of severity, from mild to severe, with severity based on a number of symptoms criteria endorsed (*DSM-5, 2013*).

Clinicians and program administrators are increasingly aware of the important differences between men and women with regard to the physical effects of substance use and the specific issues related to substance use disorders. They are also recognizing that these differences have an impact on treatment—that gender does make a difference. When women’s specific needs are addressed from the outset, improved treatment engagement, retention, and outcomes are the result (*SAMSHA, 2009*).

Gender differences in rates of substance abuse have been consistently observed in the general population and treatment-seeking samples, with men exhibiting significantly higher rates of substance use, abuse, and dependence (*Compton et al., 2007*); (*Kessler et al., 2005*); (*Grucz et al., 2008*). However, recent epidemiologic surveys suggest that this gap between men and women has narrowed in recent decades.

Women addiction is a raising problem in Egypt regarding to the study done as the fourth phase of the National Addiction Research Program (*Hamdi et al., 2013*).

Aim of the Work

The aim of this project is:

- To analyze and discuss similarities and difference between the gender in substance use disorder.
- To highlight severity of substance use disorder in both male and female.
- To highlight comorbidity of substance use disorder in both male and female.

Chapter 1

Substance use disorder

Globally, both the range of drugs and drug markets are expanding and diversifying as never before. The findings of World Drug Report 2018 make clear that the international community needs to step up its responses to cope with these challenges, and highlights the importance of gender- and age-sensitive drug policies, exploring the particular needs and challenges of women and young people. Moreover, it looks into increased drug use among older people, a development requiring specific treatment and care (*Drug report, 2018*).

Substance-related disorders are not limited to any particular country or world region, for example, in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR), drug use disorders is common and accounting for a loss of 4 disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) and 9 deaths per 1000 population, compared with the loss of 2 DALYs and 4 deaths per 1000 population (*Waleed, 2014*).

Focusing on Egypt during the last few decades, and to be more specific during the past five decades, the changes that have affected the Egyptian society from socio-economic changes and the low level of awareness among the Egyptians