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### METHYLPHENIDATE TREATMENT IN ADHD/BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND SMOKING BEHAVIOR

P. Golubchik<sup>1</sup>, J. Sever<sup>1</sup>, G. Shoval<sup>1</sup>, **G. Zalsman**<sup>1</sup>, A. Weizman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Geha Mental Health Center, <sup>2</sup>Geha Mental Health Center, 5 Felsenstein Medical Research Center, Beilinson Campus, Tel-Aviv University, Petah Tiqwa, Israel*

**Background:** Cigarette smoking and nicotine dependence is prevalent among the attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) pediatric population. We assessed the influence of methylphenidate treatment on the smoking behavior of adolescent girls with ADHD/ borderline personality disorder (BPD).

**Method:** Twelve ADHD/BPD female adolescent smokers aged 14-19 years were treated with MPH for an 8 week period. The severity of ADHD was assessed by the ADHD Rating Scale (ADHD-RS) and the smoking behavior was rated by Fagerstorm Test for Nicotine Dependence (FTND).

**Results:** Significant improvement was detected in ADHD symptomatology, (Baseline vs. endpoint: ADHD-RS :  $33.1 \pm 6.8$  vs.  $19.9 \pm 6.8$ ,  $t=6.875$ ,  $df=11$ ,  $p=0.0001$ ). A decline in the severity of nicotine dependence, as assessed by FTND (baseline vs. endpoint:  $4.1 \pm 2.6$  vs.  $2.0 \pm 1.9$ ,  $t = 4.056$ ,  $df=11$ ,  $p= 0.0019$ ), was observed. No significant correlation was found between changes in the ADHD-RS and the FTND following methylphenidate treatment ( $r=0.09935$ ,  $p=0.7587$ ).

**Conclusion:** Methylphenidate may attenuate smoking behavior in ADHD/BPD female adolescent smokers.