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P18. Epidemiology

P18.01

Unmet needs in persons with long-term psychiatric disabilities

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The purpose of the study was to identify and describe conditions of life and needs of professional care and social support for persons with a psychiatric disability in a Swedish county population (220 837 inhabitants). Staff in psychiatric care and social service identified and filled out a questionnaire concerning the identified person's conditions of life and their needs. A selection of persons filled out a questionnaire themselves. A total of 1261 persons were identified, 6.5/1000 inhabitants in the urban area and 4.6/1000 inhabitants in the rural area. Half of them were reported to need help and support in activities of daily living. Overall care and service providers reported females to be better functioning than males. The most prevalent unmet need was to participate in leisure time activities. Persons living in urban settings needed help more often with personal hygiene, cleaning/washing, taking medication, and from home help service and a trustee, while persons living in rural settings needed more help with job training and work. The persons reported the same needs as the staff. The conclusion was that care and service providers can be used to identify persons with a psychiatric disability and to estimate proportions of needs.

P18.02

Very early separation and criminality

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Objective: We studied the association between very early separation and later criminality.

Method: The index cohort consisted of 3020 subjects born in 1945–1965 in Finland and isolated from their family immediately after birth to nurseries due to tuberculosis in the family. The average separation time was seven months. For every index subject, two reference subjects were matched for sex, year of birth and place of birth. Data on violent and non-violent crimes were obtained from Statistics Finland between January 1, 1977 and December 31, 1998.

Results: Of the male index subjects 11.8 % and 6.9 % of the reference subjects were violent offenders (OR 1.91, 95%CI 1.55–2.35). In females the proportions were 1.1 % and 0.8 % respectively (OR 1.55, 95%CI 0.81–2.99). Non-violent crimes were done by 25.5 % of the male indexes and 22.8 % of the controls (OR 1.26, 95%CI 1.09–1.45), and by 7.5 % of the female indexes and 4.9 % of the controls (OR 1.56, 95%CI 1.20–2.03).

Conclusions: Parental separation at birth in tuberculous households was associated with criminality in the offspring, especially violent offences in sons.

P18.03

Prevalence lifetime of substance use and other addictive behaviours in high school students

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Goals: to evaluate the prevalence lifetime of substance use and other addictive behaviours in a group of high school students using a self-administrated questionnaire.

Methods: we used a multiple-choice questionnaire, anonymous, in scheduled prevention programmes in different high schools. The sample was composed by students (average age 16.4 y.o.): 458 female and 153 male who live in our province (1.000.000 inhab. close to Milan metropolitan area). We collected data about use different substances, gambling attitude and risk seeking behaviours.

Results:

	Cocaine		Nicotine		Alcohol		THC		MDMA		Popper		PG*		RS**		
	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	N [^]	%	
female	458	41	8.95	187	40.8	217	47.4	142	31	41	8.95	19	4.15	26	5.67	82	17.9
male	153	14	9.15	46	30.1	77	50.3	49	32	6	3.9	4	2.6	20	13.1	45	29.4
total	611	55	9	233	38.1	294	48.1	191	31.3	47	7.7	23	3.76	46	7.52	127	20.8

*PG, pathological gambling; **RS, risk-seeking.

Conclusions: cocaine use (9%) appears to be higher than in other European studies: the lowest prevalence is 0,2% (Finland) and the highest is 4,3% (Spain). THC use varies from 3% (Greece) to 41% (UK) with a mean score of 18.7% in EU; our data are close to the maximum rate in Europe. MDMA use varies from 0.2% (Finland) to 9% (Ireland); our results show a very high rate, especially in females. The smoking rate in females appears quite high than in common known data, especially compared to males percentage. Use of alcohol is not so different compared to European data. Gambling attitude and risk seeking behaviours show data that are difficult to compare because these areas are not so well investigated. The high prevalence of addictive behaviours in youth needs a special attention to define new strategies in prevention programmes. The new trends in addiction (gambling and risk seeking behaviours) need more attention to better know the real prevalence of the pathological phenomenon using the know-how of the professionals involved in the addiction field.

P18.04

Suicide and schizophrenia: an epidemiological study in the area of Varese, Italy

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Objective: schizophrenia is associated with a raised risk of suicide. The passage from asylum-based to community-based care has