Conference Announcement

Title
- 6th International Conference on Pain and Chemical Dependency
- New York, NY, February 5-7, 2004

Preliminary Program Topics
- Neurobiology of Pain and Addiction
- Functional Neuroimaging in Pain and Addiction
- Barriers to Opioid Treatment for Pain and Addiction
- Opioid Mechanisms
- Treatment of Acute and Nonmalignant Pain
- Special Populations
- Legal, Regulatory, and Organizational Issues
- Controversial Issues

Organizing Committee
- Russell K. Portenoy, MD, Medical Chair
- Joyce H. Lowinson, MD, Medical Co-Chair
- Myra Glajchen, DSW, Administrative Chair
- Herman Joseph, PhD, Executive Chair

CE Credit Certified by
- Beth Israel Medical Center and St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center
- Sponsored by Beth Israel Medical Center, Department of Pain Medicine and Palliative Care
- CME Credit = 18 hours

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Keywords
- Neurology
- Opioid
- Pain
- Palliative Care
- Chemical Dependency
- Alcohol
- Addiction
- Substance Abuse

JOURNAL OF
CHILD & ADOLESCENT
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Volume 13
Number 1
2003

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Negative Affect and HIV Risk in Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Abusing Adolescent Offenders
Barbara A. Lucenko
Robert M. Malow
Mario Sanchez-Martinez
Terri Jennings
Jessy G. DeVieux

Various depressive symptoms have been linked to elevated levels of HIV risk across diverse adult populations in multiple studies. However, this link has been examined in a much more limited manner among adolescents, despite an exceedingly heightened risk of both HIV and negative affect in this age group. To address the current lack of clinically pertinent knowledge in this area, we analyzed baseline data from 256 male and 107 female inner city, culturally diverse adolescent offenders. Relatively "high" and "low" negative affect subgroups were formed by conducting a median split on scores from the well-validated depressive affect scale of the Million Adolescent Clinical Inventory (MACI). Compared to the low negative affect subgroup, the high negative affect participants reported significantly more sexual partners, unprotected sex, and increased susceptibility to HIV, as well as
more marijuana, cocaine, and alcohol use (all p's < .05). Although demonstrating better condom skills, negative affect participants reported less favorable attitudes towards using condoms, less knowledge about HIV transmission, and lower sexual self-efficacy than non-depressive participants. Symptoms of negative affect are therefore of particular concern for adolescents, who are at risk not only for generally acknowledged difficulties such as suicide, but also for multiple HIV risk factors. The theoretical and applied implications of these findings will be discussed.

KEYWORDS. HIV, affect, substance abuse, adolescent, personality, Millon

Which Psychosocial Factors Are Related to Drinking Among Rural Adolescents?

Jennifer A. Epstein
Gilbert J. Botvin
Richard Spoth

This study examined the relationship of psychosocial factors with alcohol use for adolescents residing in rural Iowa. This association was also tested separately for boys and girls. Seventh graders (N = 1673) self-reported alcohol use, peer drinking norms, adult drinking norms, drug refusal assertiveness, drug refusal techniques, life skills, pro-drinking attitudes, risk-taking tendency, and perceived family management practices. Data were collected during a 45-minute class period. Multiple regressions indicated that: Peer drinking norms, drug refusal assertiveness, drug refusal techniques, life skills, pro-drinking attitudes and risk-taking tendency were related to drinking measures. Perceived family management skills and drug refusal techniques were associated with drinking for girls but not boys. Risk-taking tendency was related to drinking for boys but not girls.

KEYWORDS. Alcohol use, rural adolescents, psychosocial factors, gender-specific differences

Patterns of Depressive Symptoms, Drinking Motives, and Sexual Behavior Among Substance Abusing Adolescents: Implications for Health Risk

Jonathan G. Tubman
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Lilly M. Langer

Adolescents with substance use problems were classified into four distinct and meaningful subgroups based on patterns of depressive symptoms and motives for drinking before sex (i.e., avoidance, enhancement and social motives) using cluster analysis. Data were collected in face-to-face interviews from 120 adolescents and young adults (87 men, 33 women; mean age = 17.2 years) undergoing substance abuse treatment. Groups with higher and lower functioning were validated via significant group differences in conceptually relevant variables assessing psychological distress, alcohol use behaviors, and HIV-relevant risk behaviors. These analyses identified a subgroup of adolescents with high levels of depressive symp-

toms and drinking motives who are at elevated risk for HIV/STD exposure due to higher levels of risky sexual behavior and altered sexual behavior related to co-occurring alcohol use. Implications for morbidity, mortality and treatment effectiveness in this at-risk sample are discussed.

KEYWORDS. Adolescence, depression, drinking motives, HIV, risky sexual behavior, substance abuse, suicide

Predictors of Smoking Initiation Among At-Risk Youth: A Controlled Study

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Loretta Spurgeon
Lisa A. Evans
Edythe D. London
Alane Kimes
Jennifer R. Schroeder
Monique Ernst

Purpose: To examine smoking initiation in a group of adolescents at risk for developing substance abuse.

Methods: Fifty-nine adolescents (25 control and 34 at risk adolescents) participated in a longitudinal study of behavioral and cognitive predictors of development of substance abuse. Aggression, conduct problems, hyperactivity, impulsivity, inattention, anxiety/depression, social difficulties, and somatic complaints were assessed at study entry, and tested as predictors for smoking.

Results: At the last follow-up (mean 15 months), 41 (69.5%) adolescents had not smoked, 10 (17%) had experimented with cigarettes, and 8 (13.5%) had smoked regularly. Aggression, hyperactivity, and somatic complaints significantly predicted smoking initiation (p < 0.05). Smoking status was similar across psychiatric diagnostic groups.

Conclusions: These adolescents warrant close monitoring as they are at risk for nicotine dependence and/or psychiatric problems. Preventive measures should be targeted to these at risk adolescents in both primary care and community settings.

KEYWORDS. Adolescent smoking, behavioral predictors, psychiatric co-morbidity, at-risk youth, smoking initiation