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EFFECT OF METHADONE MAINTENANCE THERAPY ON SELECTIVE ATTENTION AND DRUG RELATED ATTENTION BIAS

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One of the main problems of the drug abusers is drug related attention bias, which causes craving, and as a result drive the drug abusers to take narcotics. Methadone is used as a maintenance treatment for drug abusers.

The purpose of this study is evaluation the effect of Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT) on selective attention and attention bias related drug.

This study investigated drug cue-related attention bias and selective attention on 16 methadone-maintained patients before and 45 days after methadone therapy period. Stroop Color-Word Test and Addiction Stroop Test were used as measurement methods. Dependent T-Test was used for analysis. Results show less reaction time and higher accuracy in Color-Word Stroop Test after MMT and less delay for Addict Related Word in Addiction Stroop Test. It is concluded that methadone can improve selective attention capability and reduce drug related attention bias and it is useful for reducing craving in drug abuser.