

P01-109

CO-OCCURRENCE OF PATOLOGICAL GAMBLING AND ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE LIKE COMMON BEHAVIOR

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Introduction: Pathological gambling and alcoholism are more common. In recent literature many factors may increase the risk for both conditions (social, cognitive, genetic, psychopharmacological).

Objectives: Experts talk about problematic behavior linking gambling and alcoholism and the terms „disordered gambling behavior“ and „disordered alcoholics behavior“ occurrence like common behaviour. Most gamblers drink alcohol during gambling.

Aim: Our paper show that some kind of disordered or dysfunctional behavior among pathological gambling and alcoholism presented common behavior frame for both of them.

Methods: We observed 25 male inpatients/outpatients, range of age between 20 - 50, for six months period of time who were treated in Department of Alcoholism in Special Hospital On Addictions, Belgrade, Serbia. We used the ICD-X diagnostic criteria for pathological gambling and alcohol dependence (excluded other disorder and co morbidity), data collected by medical history of illness, psychiatry interview and check list for behavior disorder for both conditions.

Results: All the patients have negative consequences of their pathological gambling and alcoholism like loss the money, loss the job, disfunctional family and partners relationships, loss of friends, avoid school and other peer activities, improve criminal behavior, sleep disorder, anxiety, depressive mood disorder. Also, occurs the impulsivity behavior and lack of control as common factor for both behavior.

Conclusion: According the available literature and ICD-X do not meet the diagnostic criteria for common behavior disorder co-occurrence of pathological gambling and alcoholism yet, but determine „event-level“ like co-occurrence of gambling and drinking behavior. Some paper like this shows that exist common behavior linking gambling and alcoholism.