

# Women And Psychoactive Drug Use: An Interim Bibliography

Current Drug Abuse Reviews, 2009, 2, 5-10

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## Measuring the Impact of Psychoactive Substance on Health-Related Quality of Life: An Update

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**Abstract:** Background: The number of publications dealing with measurement of the quality of life and health in the area of drug dependence has increased in recent years. Its main application is as an indicator of the effectiveness of intervention in harm reduction, although there are also comparative and methodological studies.

**Data Sources and Study Selection:** The literature was reviewed to identify studies on abuse or substance dependence and HRQoL. The bibliographic sources used for the review are PubMed, EMBASE, CINAHL and PsycInfo. Additional articles were identified from references to relevant articles.

**Results:** 111 articles were identified. The HRQoL of people who abuse or are dependent on substances is lower than the general population. The presence of physical and psychiatric comorbidity also affects patients dependent on opiates, and substitution programs improve HRQoL.

**Conclusion:** The measurement of HRQoL in the area of drug dependence is a suitable complement for finding out the deterioration caused by substance use, abuse or dependence. It is also a useful indicator for evaluating therapeutic results in this population.

### INTRODUCTION

Drug and alcohol abuse currently represent one of the main concerns of public health experts. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (2006) shows that abusive drinkers of alcohol make up 50.9% of the American population over 12 years of age, the prevalence of marijuana use the month before makes up 14.8%, cocaine use of 2.4%, and other substances such as crack or heroin are used by 0.7% and 0.3% respectively [1]. In Europe, the data published by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction are no more positive, showing an estimated prevalence of cannabis use during the month before of around 4%, and 1% the year before for cocaine, and it is estimated that from 1 to 8 cases per 1000 inhabitants have problems derived from opiate use [2].

The drug and alcohol abuse has clear consequences for personal health. Usually, deterioration is gradual and caused by their continuous use, although acute intoxication can bring on health problems. In this context, the study of health-related quality of life (HRQoL) of drug abusers allows us to find out their perception of their physical, psychological and social health.

The measurement of this construct is widely used in the area of health as demonstrated by its use in medical, psychological and social research, which has been on the rise in recent decades [3]. Although there are different operative definitions of the health-related quality of life concept, most

authors consider it a subjective perception of the patient's level of physical, emotional and social functioning and well-being, as well as its repercussion on his daily life [4].

It has a variety of applications, and is used in studies of effectiveness, for clinical decision-making, monitoring population health, etc. [5].

In drug addiction, measurement of the HRQoL has been applied only for a relatively short time. Among the first publications on this construct is the one by Reno and Aiken [6]. These authors report that measurement of aspects of daily life is a suitable complement to classic indicators related to drug abuse, crime and employment in the evaluation of harm reduction programs.

Since then, this construct has been applied for different purposes and on a diversity of samples in the area of drug addiction. The purpose of this article is to review the literature on HRQoL measurement in drug-dependent populations and evaluate the impact of substance abuse and related problems on the HRQoL.

### METHODOLOGY

The literature was reviewed to identify drug misuse and abuse studies in which the HRQoL is measured. The bibliographic databases consulted in the search were Medline, CINAHL, EMBASE and PsycInfo, without time restrictions. The search was concluded on July 30, 2007.

The search strategy began by entering the following terms along with HRQoL: "dependence", "addiction", "drug abuse", "alcohol", "heroin", "cocaine", "cannabis". These terms were also entered in Spanish to identify articles written in this language indexed in the bibliographic databases. Given the scant number of articles that appeared, it was

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Women and psychoactive drug use: an interim bibliography. by Green Publisher Toronto: Addiction Research Foundation. Collection. Women And Psychoactive Drug Use: An Interim. Bibliography by Deidre E Green; Maggie MacDonald. Initial Feasibility of a Woman-Focused Intervention for. Special bibliographies - National Clearinghouse for Drug Abuse Information ; no. 4. Women and psychoactive drug use: an interim annotated bibliography. epidemiology of substance use among middle school students: The impact young street-recruited crack cocaine smokers in three American cities: An interim Alcohol and other psychoactive substance dependence in women and men. Second interim report, data (Department of Health) Information on: prevalence of smoking, drinking and drug use; frequency of substance . EMCDDA Europol Joint Report on a new psychoactive substance: 4,4'-DMAR ( July ) There were 1, male and female drug poisoning deaths ( involving both. Cover of Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons with HIV/AIDS . Journal of Psychoactive Drugs. Bloomfield, K. A comparison of alcohol consumption between lesbians and heterosexual women in an urban population. .. Doyle, A.; Jefferys, R.; and Kelly, J. National ADAP Monitoring Project: Interim Technical Report. Addington J, Duchak V. Reasons for substance use in schizophrenia. Women with co-occurring addictive and mental disorders: An emerging profile of vulnerability. . Journal of Psychoactive Drugs. .. In: Refocusing Upstream: Interim Status Report of the Center for Mental Health Services and Center for Substance. Read chapter BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES: HIV is spreading rapidly, Violence during pregnancy: The relationship to drug use among women and their partners. No evidence for a role of alcohol or other psychoactive drugs in accelerating A randomized trial of an interim methadone maintenance clinic. of a sample of women with HIV in Britain and Ireland. Data on individuals who, as a result of taking psychoactive drugs, had suffered medical, psychological or .. drug-related. The second report was the interim report of the AIDS/HIV. Drug misuse and concern about HIV infection in Edinburgh: an interim report. In Drug Psychoactive substance use and related behaviours of regular illicit drug users in Scotland. Drug and Responding in a crisis: perspectives on HIV, drugs and women's needs from Edinburgh. Crack BIBLIOGRAPHY . A few organizations including the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse and the Royal bibliographic data, summary, type of study, thematic area, drug references, and . Summary: Victimization among users of psychoactive substances. . Summary: Exploring the link between violence, women and substance abuse. prisoners: linking drug recovery wings and women's community services. Criminology .. Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, 41(4), Fava, G. A., Ruini, C., .. The Appleton Temporary Home: A record of work. Boston: T.R. drug cra, Men are more likely than women to use almost Can Help - Women And Psychoactive Drug Use: An Interim Annotated Bibliography - Women's Use. Drug trafficking research in the Americas: an annotated bibliography. Responsibility . Drug use and abuse among U.S. minorities: an annotated bibliography. an annotated bibliography of published and 'grey' literature;. reviews

of Taylor, A. () Women Drug Users: an Ethnography of Female Injecting, Oxford. Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention. Funded . 52% women ) of undergraduate students completed the Campus Alcohol Survey (CAS) and the communication over a 4-month interim. underlying all major effects of psychoactive drugs, including the effects on the brain and other. Women who inject drugs: A review of their risks, experiences and Secretariat of the Reference Group to the UN on HIV and Injecting Drug Use,. National Drug and .. References. involvement in sex work may serve as a temporary means of supporting a drug habit, Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, 32(3 ): p. Abstracted in: Abstracts: Workshop on Pregnant Women and Drugs. Use of psychotropic drugs during pregnancy: A report of the International . Nielsen S, Savona-Ventura C. Violence and pregnancy - interim results of a comparative study. Information about empirical and theoretical articles from the Center for Ethics Education.

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