Research Article

Reviewing the demographic features, the patterns of drugs use and the its relation with some individual and social variables in addicts referring to the drug abuse centers

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ABSTRACT:

The high prevalence of addiction imposes a lot of physical, mental and psychological problems to the society upon that of health one of the main ways of transmission of AIDS is the consumption of injection drugs and the drugs-related crimes have been socially found guilty that the recognition of demography, social, and cultural factors in tendency to addiction, prevention and its epidemic have a special significance. This descriptive-analytical study was randomly done based on the background information of 710 addicts referring to addiction treatment centers of Kerman province gradually in retrospective method from 2010 to 2014 for those who had formed the file and the considered information was collected through the specific form. The collected form is consist of demography information, such as (age, sex, birth, marital status, education) and the information was designed concerning the process that a drug addict had gone through and under the circumstances he/she was ultimately addicted to drugs and referred in order to receive treatment. The considered information was analyzed by using the version 18 of software program Spss, 95.5% of addicts were men and 4.5% were women and the average of age was 33 years old. The age average for starting the addiction has been 22 and the most, 71.8%, have been the people in 20-39 and frequent minimum has been under 20. 69.6% of addicts were married, 35.9% worker, 31.1% the unemployed and 95.6% of them were educationally under high school diploma.

Opium was the most kind of consumption substance in addicts (45.1%), and after opium, Crack was the most (18.3%). Prevalence of opium consumption, p=0.05; refined opium, p=0.03; and crack, p 0.04 significantly has been more in men in comparison to women.

Opium and crack have been the most common consumption drug that due to discounting age of addiction to youth and being common among individuals with lower educations and unemployment, prevention planning and education programs should focus on the younger, unemployed and uneducated individuals.

Key words: demographic, addicts, drug abuse

INTRODUCTION:

Addiction can be defined as taking medication by force, or losing control and over using drugs despite having the distasteful consequences(1).

The drugs are one of the international community problems and in this way it seriously damages the community and individuals. One of the prevalent factors of addiction is the easy and quick access to

drugs. At the same time, it should be noted that in most cases, the addiction has an increasing path, it means that the drug use typically begins from soft drugs which have a little destructive power and results in hard and destructive drugs that finally it leads to instability of personality, health and individual life(2).

The psychological-personality characteristics of drug addicts not only derive from the drugs but also, before their addiction, they had numerous psychological and personality inadequacy that has been appeared and intensified more destructive after their addiction, therefore in all the writings related to addiction, the characteristics of the personality have been presented as a factor for becoming an addict. In other words, the most number of addicts are people who had the personality inadequacy(3).

Many studies have been done about the role of the personality characteristics on the addiction behavior. These studies show that the personality characteristics affect the beginning, the expansion and the continuation of dependency on drugs (4).

Personality has been formed by the combination of distinguished features and properties that refers to a specific collection of characteristics such as thought, feeling, behavior and attitude(5).

The characteristics of personality are completely unique in each person and people are not similar in the collection of personality characteristics. The characteristics of personality can significantly affect the excitement reactions and the individual's assessment of stress and the methods of dealing with it(6). The addiction and the drug abuse complications are one of the serious problem in world. The office of the United Nations Drug Control counts the addiction as one of the quadruplet crisis of the world. This office has explained the prevalence of addiction over a half percent in the world and has mentioned the death due to addiction regularly increasing(7).

The first step in fighting against a social phenomenon or a disease is the proper recognition of it so that, according to it, the optimal planning

is possible. In this reviewing, the demographic features, the patterns of drugs use and the its relation with some individual and social variables are studied in statistical analysis method in order to provide the background, questions and hypothesis for the future studying on the basis of the obtained information, and the executive planning is done based on the realities and be more scientific.

Work method:

This descriptive-analytical study was randomly done based on the background information of 710 people of addicts referring to addiction treatment centers of Kerman province gradually in past-oriented method from 2010 to 2014 for whom had been formed the file and the considered information was collected through the specific form.

The collected form is consist of demography information, such as (age, sexuality, birth, single or married, education) and the information was designed concerning the process that a drug addict had gone through and under the circumstances he/she was ultimately addicted to drugs and referred in order to receive treatment.

For statistical analysis, data were entered to SPSS version 18. The qualitative data were analyzed and the correlation between nominal variables was evaluated, using Chi-square.

After confirming the normality of quantitative data, ANOVA test was applied for making comparisons. In case the data were not normally distributed, non-parametric tests were applied. P-value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

RESULTS:

The average of addicts' age was 33 years old and the age average of the onset of addiction was 22 years old and the beginning age of addiction in 71.8% of addicts was in the scope of age 20-39. The most age group of onset of addiction in women was 77.8% in the scope of age 20-39 and in men was 71.6% in the scope of age 20-39 years

old. Only 1.9% has started the drug use under 20 years old. The difference of age distribution for starting the addiction between two sex was not statistically significant (p=0.39).

Chart 1 shows that the most frequency of addicts 71.8% were in 20-39 years old in this research.

The least frequency 1.9% has been related to the age group under 20 years old.

There are not any significant statistical difference in the age distribution of addicts in two sex male and female(p=0.67).

Chart 1- Frequency distribution and age groups, sex, marital status, education, job variables percent in addicts referring to addiction treatment center

Variables	Number(percent)
<20(year)	13 (1.9%)
20-39(year)	510 (71.8%)
40-59(year)	172 (24.2%)
>=60(year)	15 (2.1%)
Male	678 (95.5%)
Female	32 (4.5%)
Single	216 (30.4%)
Married	494 (69.6%)
Uneducated	35 (4.9%)
Elementary	151 (21.3%.)
Under high school diploma	278 (39.2%)
High school diploma	214 (30.2%)
Bachelor's degree	28 (3.9%)
Master's	3 (0.4%)
Doctorate	1 (0.1%)
Student of university	8 (1.1%)
Homemaker	18 (2.5%)
Worker	255 (35. 9%)
Employee	29 (4.1%)
Self employment	151 (21. 3%)
Unemployed	249 (35.1%)

Chart 2- Frequency distribution and percent of any kinds of drugs on the basis of sex in addicts referring to addiction treatment centers

Kind of drug	Number of men(percent)	Number of women(percent)	Sum(percent)	P-value
Hemp	92 (13.5%)	2 (7.4%)	94 (13.2%)	0.08
Refined opium	77 (11.3%)	1 (3.7%)	78 (11%)	0.03
Opium	306 (44.8%)	14 (51.9%)	320 (45.1%)	0.05
Heroin	62 (9.1%)	1 (3.7%)	63 (8.9%)	0.7
Cocaine	23 (3.3%)	2 (7.4%)	25 (3.5%)	0.1
Crack	123 (18%)	7 (25.9%)	130 (18.3%)	0.04

The most common drugs abuse has been opium 45.1%, crack 18.3%, hemp 13.2%, refined opium 11% and heroin 8.9% respectively.

The percentage of the prevalence of opium p=0.05, refined opium p=0.03 and crack p=0.04 in men was significantly more than women.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:

The age average of starting addiction was 22 years old according to the findings of this study and the average of addicts' age for withdrawal is 33 years old that it lasts about 11 years on average from the beginning time of being addicted to drugs to the

time of making a decision to give up that is a very long time.

In this research, the beginning age of addiction of the most frequency (71.8%) was related to the age group 20-39 years old, and in age distribution the addicts were more in the age group 20-39 in this study that it corresponds to the other results inside the country (8, 9, 10, 11, 12).

Some other studies have represented more frequency in the older age (13). But from the aspect of the average of age, the results of studies accords with the studies inside the country (8,12,13,14).

But in other study, the average of beginning age of addiction 28.8 years old (8) and in the other study in Italia had been less than this stud(15).

According to the results, 99.5% of addicts in our country are men and 4.5% are women, it means that in eastern community, there are the differences in behavior and tendency of two sex to addiction due to the cultural and social structure that women are in less danger so it is the same fact as the less population of addicts(0.5%) are women (8,9,10,14,16).

There are many differences in comparison to the studies outside the country that the prevalence of addiction in women has been reported from (25%) to (43%) .(15,16,17,18) The frequency pattern differences of addiction in two sex male and female in eastern and western communities should be investigated in the difference of the cultural and social structure between two sex. The results of study show that 69.6% of addicts got married and single 27.2% of addicts were single that in the point of view of marital status distribution, the results of study are according to the other results (8,9,10,11,13,19).

More addicts were under the high school diploma(39.2%). In general the most population of addicts do not have any university education that the continuation of study especially the university educations as a factor of prevention in tendency of youth to addiction has an important role. Of course the addiction or conditions and its

preparative disorder can be as the factors to avoid continuing the study. In this study 35.1% of addicts were unemployed that it explains the importance of the role of employment opportunities for youth in addition to the educations to control it. These results have corresponded to the other results of studies (9, 12, 13, 19).

The consumption of opium yet has the most frequency in addicts so the man-made and new semi man-made drugs still have not been able to be instead of opium traditional consumption in addicts that has been accorded with the other results of studies as the most drug consumed(8,11,12,19).

In this study the social problems of addicts were the most of reason for referring to the clinic of withdrawal that mental problems is reduced to the second rank. It is restricted to some specific study to explain the main motivation of withdrawal and the personal inclination has been the most of factor for referring (10) and in the other study, the most of reason for referring has been mentioned to be tired of addiction(14).

By considering the discounting age of addiction to youth and being common among individuals with lower educations and unemployment, prevention planning and education programs should focus on the younger, unemployed and uneducated individuals. The considerable distance between the age of starting addiction and the age of referring for withdrawal also indicates the necessity of endeavor for informing and creating the persuasive and stimulus backgrounds in addicts to act more quickly as possible to get rid of this ominous difficulty.

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