

Kharkiv Ukraine













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AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER AND SUBSTANCE USE IN YOUTH

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Introduction. The prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) has increased greatly over the past several years. Substance use is a major health concern in the persons ages 15-24. Most persons with ASD, even those with relatively developed language skills have a constellation of social and non-social cognitive deficits. They can present difficulties understanding the thoughts and emotions of others and their own and the modalities involved in nonverbal communication. They can be rigid in their thinking and interests which can lead to difficulties in confronting life challenges. Adolescence and young adulthood can be a time of stress and confusion for any growing child. Especially youth with ASD and teens with ASD may become aware that they are different from their peers. For some this may lead to depression, anxiety or even substances use disorder (SUD). Based on clinical experiences, youth with ASD with a co-occurring SUD represent a unique treatment challenge and require additional or modified interventions that target the constellation of social and non-social cognitive deficits.

Materials and methods. We conducted a limited review of the literature to determine the challenges and types of interventions employed when treating SUD in individuals with ASD. A paucity of literature exists in this area. We thus reviewed three clinical cases. We first looked at the required skills needed for an individual to successfully participate in a substance abuse program. Then, we looked at the common characteristics seen in the individuals with ASD participating in SUD programs requirements to affect treatment. We suggest possible interventions and highlight the need for further research.

Results. Youth patients with ASD and substance use disorder display poorer outcomes in traditional substances abuse programs. Traditional substances use treatment modalities such as individuals, family or group counseling rely on participating individuals to have certain skills that individuals with ASD lack or have difficulties with. We suggest that the poorer outcomes are directly related to an incompatibility between program requirements and core autism characteristics.

Conclusion. Completing treatment is the strongest predictor of continued sobriety and positive health outcomes, so it is important that youth participate in and successfully finish substance abuse treatment services. Youth with ASD represents a unique and challenging population when it comes to SUD treatment. Limitations of existing substances abuse programs create struggles in addressing the core deficits of ASD. Program structures must be modified and adapted to address the unique needs of







these individuals. As we illustrated, individuals with ASD may require additional or modified interventions to treat their SUDs. These interventions may be required as a prerequisite or in a parallel. Concomitant fashions to facilitate a successful outcome. We hypothesize that persons with ASD may benefit more from individuals rather than traditional group therapies given their social deficits, need a highly structured program with routines individualized to their needs and possibly additional modalities such as a computer based interventions given their intense interest in technology. These and other interventions may be a useful addition to a traditional treatment plan thus increasing motivation and interest and resulting in increased responsiveness to intervention. Further research is needed to explore these and additional interventions.

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PERSONAL IDEALS AND ADAPTATION OF ENGLISH MEDIUM STUDENTS

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Introduction. Personality is one of the basic characteristics in psychology. This is an integral indicator of the biological and social in man. At the present stage of development of psychologists, there are many theories of personality, one of them is psychoanalysis. From the classical works of Z. Freud, we understand the structure of personality as the interaction of It (It), Ego (I) and Super-ego (super-I). As a dynamic structure, the personality develops in a system of conflicts, prohibitions, compromises and motivations. If It is instincts (unconscious inclinations), the Ego is what we are (realized), then the Super-Ego is a moral and ethical attitude, a religion, a conscience and a system of ideals. Super-Ego is formed in the process of development and education of a particular person, helps him to adapt in a civilized world. One of the main functions of the Super-Ego is the formation of Ideals. The concept of the ideal is understood as perfection, the highest goal, determining the mode of thinking, activity, something that affects society and reduces to a combination of norms of behavior and requirements. Also this concept is inseparable from the cultural evolution, the crisis periods of the development of society, self-esteem. The purpose of our study is to determine the characteristics of personal characteristics, their formation and adequacy of maintaining adaptation in changing social conditions.

Materials and methods. The contingent of our study was presented by 38 students, KhNMU, 4th courses, English language training. Most of them were residents of the Middle East, Central Africa, India, at the age of $23 \pm 2,1$. We used the method of clinically directed conversation, the psych diagnostic method (personality questionnaire, Cattell 16 SF-16).