

Substance Use Disorder diagnosis and craving: comparison of substance users accessing treatment and substance users in harm reduction programs.

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Background

- Some diagnostic criteria and craving could be induced by treatment settings due to encouragement to reduce/stop use
- How diagnostic characteristics of addiction are endorsed in active substance users outside of an abstinence/treatment-oriented context?
- To model subjects actively engaged in use and accessible to research we chose **harm reduction program (HR) participants**
- No studies have examined use disorder diagnostic criteria endorsement among HR participants, but one study assessed frequency and intensity of craving reported by more than half of the HR participants (Gu, et al., 2009)

Objectives

To compare substance use disorder (SUD) prevalence, distribution of endorsed SUD criteria and intensity of craving between substance users in Harm Reduction (HR) settings and those accessing treatment (Tx)

Method

Study design

- Two cohort studies in 2 different types of center in Bordeaux, France:
 - COSINUS: Harm Reduction (HR) settings** (Regular users of illegal substances or misused medications, injected at least once over past 30 days) (Auriaccombe, Roux et al. 2019)
 - ADDICATQUI: Outpatient addiction Treatment programs** (At least one Use Disorder and seeking treatment): Assessment at treatment entry (Auriaccombe et al 1997)

Instruments

- The Addiction Severity Index (ASI):** sociodemographic, history of substance use, severity score (McLellan, Cacciola et al. 2006; Denis et al 2016)
- The Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI):** DSM-5 substance dependence criteria (Sheehan, Lecrubier et al. 1998)
- Visual numerical scale of craving:** Self-reported number of day with craving in the last 30 days and intensity of craving from 0 (no craving) to 10 (extreme craving) in last 30 days.

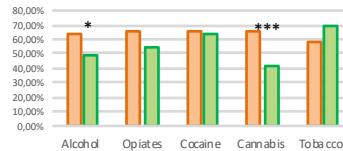
Analyses

- Among individuals who reported current regular use (at least twice during the past 12 months) : Baseline
- Analyses were conducted separately for each substance
- Compare COSINUS and ADDICATQUI: Pearson's chi-squared test (χ^2), t-student or a Welch test
- Control for False Discovery Rate: Benjamini-Hochberg procedure

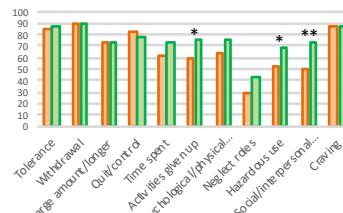
	Tx (n)	HR (n)
Alcohol	787	89
Opiates	131	102
Cocaine	141	82
Cannabis	504	95
Tobacco	1014	128

Results

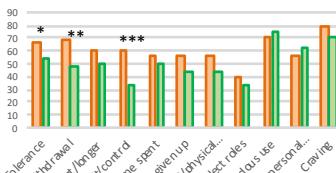
Craving prevalence



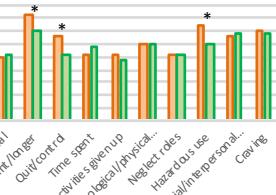
Opiates Use Disorder criteria



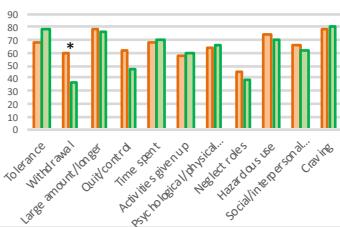
Cannabis Use Disorder criteria



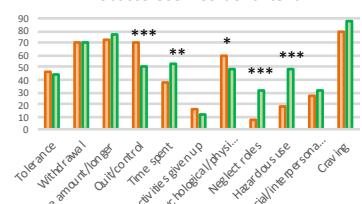
Alcohol use Disorder criteria



Cocaine Use Disorder criteria



Tobacco Use Disorder criteria



Conclusion

- Harm reduction program (HR) participants endorsed SUD diagnosis as much as individuals seeking treatment
- The prevalence of each criterion endorsement followed the same pattern regardless of the context (HR or Tx)
- Some criteria were more likely endorsed by HR participants
- HR participants had less craving episodes but at equal intensity than current substance users in treatment

Harm reduction program (HR) participants endorsed all SUD diagnostic criteria including Craving, but further studies are needed to determine if the DSM-5 SUD criteria function differently according to treatment context (active use in a friendly-use context or in an abstinence-oriented treatment context)

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