

Classification, Epidemiology and Comorbidity of Addiction Disorders

By: Hamid Taherkhani, M.D.

Abstract :

Revised only twice in the ۲۸ – year period from ۱۹۵۲ to ۱۹۸۰, the American Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) has been amended two more times in half as many years, with the publication of DSM – III – R in ۱۹۸۷ and of DSM – IV in ۱۹۹۴. The DSM counterpart in use outside of North America, the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), also underwent modification during this time period. Requirements for the addictive disorders, or as termed here, psychoactive dependence or abuse disorders, were not immune to change for good reason and to a good end. Unlike other psychiatric disorders, for which ICD and DSM criteria often were the same, a schism existed between the DSM and ICD criteria for addictive disorders. ICD criteria were shaped by an influential article that introduced the construct of a dependence syndrome, but this conceptualization was not operationalized in the DSM system until the publication of DSM – IV. With this latest revision, criteria for substance dependence now closely matches those in the ICD – ۱۰ system, establishing for the first time what may be considered a worldwide classification system for addictive disorders .

Key Words : Addictive Disorders, Classification of the DSM & ICD, Epidemiology, Comorbidity.

- ϣ. Does the APS scale aimed at identifying students that are prone to drug abuse enjoy reliability?
- Ϙ. Does the MAC.R scale aimed at identifying addiction-proned students who are also exposed to it enjoy reliability?
- Δ. Does the addiction test enjoy favorable qualitative and quantitative norms?

The results of this research indicated that there was a meaningful variation between the results of the addicted groups and students and these scales have the ability to distinguish between addicts and ordinary individuals.

The test's reliability was calculated on the basis of (total of three AAS, APS & MAC.R subscales) which is equal to 0.5338 and it was equal to 0.5332 by using the halving method.

Key Words: Normalization, Drug Abuse, Drug Addiction Test