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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Prevalence of Dissociative Experiences and Dissociative Disorders in Methamphetamine Users in Shahid Beheshti Hospital of Kerman

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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Contents

1 **Original submission** Editor-in-Chief 2
2 **Revision 1** Referee 1, Editor-in-Chief 3
Authors' reply to reviewers 4
Reviewer and editor comments 6
3 **Revision 2** Editor-in-Chief 7
Authors' reply to reviewers 8
Reviewer and editor comments 10

1 Original submission

1 comment · 18 Apr 2021

Editor-in-Chief

MAJOR REVISION 18 Apr 2021

Dear Author:
Thank you very much for submitting your manuscript to the Thrita journal. Please revise your final manuscript based on the reviewers' comments and resubmit the revised draft on our website.
Regards

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear reviewers,
Thank you for your valuable comments, we have tried to modify our manuscript based on your comments, we hope you will accept. It should be noted that the idea of conducting this study came to our mind due to the difficulty of differentiating between methamphetamine-induced psychosis and schizophrenia, and we decided to better understand the symptoms in methamphetamine users. Among the things that are forgotten in the interview are dissociative symptoms. Better understanding improves our relationship with our patients, as you know better.

We modified our manuscript as follows:

Dear reviewer 1:
Q1- Mention the year of study in abstract and method.
R1-We Mentioned the year of study in abstract(Page 1 line number 14) and method(Page 3 line number 21).

Q2- Provide a demographical table (Age, gender, education,…) (Page 11,12 Table 1,2). Also mention these factors throughout the manuscript (in abstract, method, ……)
R2- We provided a demographical table (gender, education,…). And mentioned these factors throughout the method(Page 3 line number 24) and results(Page 5 line number 3) in summary due to the limited word count.

Q3- Mention ethical code in method.
R3- We mentioned ethical code in the method. (Page 4 line number 28)

Dear reviewer 2:

Q1. The subject of the study is not very novel. For instance, there is similar article by D van Heugten-Van der Kloet, 2015: "MDMA, cannabis, and cocaine produce acute dissociative symptoms".
R1. You mentioned The subject of our study is not very novel. For instance, there is a similar article by D van Heugten-Van der Kloet, 2015: "MDMA, cannabis, and cocaine produce acute dissociative symptoms".the study mentioned by you was a clinical trial with a low sample size that had not been studied dissociative disorders and it was not possible to give high doses of amphetamine to assess severe dissociative symptoms similar to what we see in dissociative disorders. "We selected our case group from hospitalized patients, in this method, we had access to individuals with more severe symptoms which could assess the dissociative disorders in addition to the dissociative experiences. *(Page 3 line number 13)*

Q2. The title should be corrected to be related to the type of study (Example for the title: "Prevalence of dissociative symptoms in methamphetamine users in Shahid-Beheshti Hospital of Kerman").

R2. The title corrected .“Prevalence of dissociative experiences and dissociative disorders in methamphetamine users in Shahid-Beheshti Hospital of Kerman”).

Q3. The dosage of the Methamphetamine that was used by the users was not mentioned in the method section. Because the dosage of methamphetamine may have influence on the prevalence of “Dissociative Experiences”, it is necessary to mention the dosage.
Q4. The mention of the duration of the methamphetamine usage is necessary because it may affect on the results of the study.
R3.4. The dosage and duration of the Methamphetamine usage were not mentioned in the method section. Because the patient could not say how much methamphetamine use exactly.
“We selected our case group from hospitalized patients Although, in this method, we had access to individuals with more severe symptoms which could assess the dissociative disorders in addition to the dissociative experiences, the dose and duration of amphetamine use could not be assessed. Because the amphetamine users have fewer physical withdrawal symptoms, and our study cases used the amphetamine based on the amount of access to the substance and the ability to pay for it, and they expressed the dose of methamphetamine usage approximately based on the price.” We have added the above in the study limitations section. *(Page7 line number 22)*

Q5. There is no history about the participants in this study about the usage of other drugs. This is important to know that the drug abusers only consume methamphetamine and no other drugs.
R5. “Exclusion criteria included having cannabis, alcohol, or benzodiazepine use history. Only a previous history of opium use was reported in 42 individuals in the case group and 5 in the control group, but their urine test was negative at the time of study”.few methamphetamine users have no previous history of opium use. we added the above sentences. *(Page 3 line numbers 26-30)*

Q6. The “demographic characteristics” of the methamphetamine user and control group are not mentioned in this study.
R6. The “demographic characteristics” of the methamphetamine user and control group mentioned in a demographical table. (Page 11,12 Table 1,2)

Q7. The writing structure should be totally revised and corrected.
R7. We revised and added few sentences to increase the manuscript coherence which is highlighted in the text such as Page 7 line number 3 .

Best wishes

2 Revision 1

2 comments · 24 Aug 2021 – 25 Aug 2021

Referee 1 Reviewer

ACCEPT 24 Aug 2021

Dear authors

Since the dosage of Methamphetamine has not been considered in the method section, this must be stated as a limitation of the study at the end of this research.

Editor-in-Chief

MINOR REVISION 25 Aug 2021

Dear Author:
Your manuscript was reviewed. There are some reviewers' comments at the bottom of the letter.
Regards.

3

Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear reviewers,
Thank you for your valuable comments, we have tried to modify our manuscript based on your comments.

We modified our manuscript as follows:

Dear reviewer 1:
Q1- It is suggested consulting with a statistical expert to review and reconstruct the proposal of this research project.

R1-We consulted with a statistical expert and Mentioned his suggestion for this limitation at the end of the discussion for future studies."
Besides, the authors had access to individuals with more severe symptoms that could assess the dissociative disorders in addition to the dissociative experiences, but the dosage and duration of the methamphetamine usage were not considered in this study. As the patient could not declare how much methamphetamine was used exactly. performing a prospective cohort study is recommended.

Dear reviewer 2:

Q1. Since the dosage of the Methamphetamine has not been considered in the method section, it must be written as a limitation of the study at the end of this research
R1. The Limitation section was edited as follows:

Finally, it should be mentioned that low sample size and including hospitalized patients were the limitations of this study. Besides, the authors had access to individuals with more severe symptoms that could assess the dissociative disorders in addition to the dissociative experiences, but the dosage and duration of the methamphetamine usage were not considered in this study. As the patient could not declare how much methamphetamine was used exactly. performing a prospective cohort study is recommended.

Dear reviewer 3:

Q1. It is necessary to mention this as a limitation of your work at the end of the discussion
" The dosage and duration of the Methamphetamine usage were not considered in this study. Because the patient could not say how much methamphetamine use exactly"

R1. The Limitation section was edited as follows:

Finally, it should be mentioned that low sample size and including hospitalized patients were the limitations of this study. Besides, the authors had access to individuals with more severe symptoms that could assess the dissociative disorders in addition to the dissociative experiences, but the dosage and duration of the methamphetamine usage were not considered in this study. As the patient could not declare how much methamphetamine was used exactly. performing a prospective cohort study is recommended.

Best wishes

3 Revision 2

1 comment · 13 Sep 2021

Editor-in-Chief

ACCEPT 13 Sep 2021

Dear Author:
Thank you very much for considering the Thrita journal for the publication of your paper. I'm pleased to confirm that your manuscript has been accepted for publication in the Thrita journal.
Regards