

Identifying Factors Linking Childhood Neglect to Opiate Use

Authors : Usha Barahmand, Ali Khazaei, Goudarz Sadeghi Hashjin

Abstract : The purpose of this study is to assess the relative mediating effects of impulsivity and internalizing problems in the relationship between childhood neglect and motives for opiate use. Seventy-two adolescent opiate users were recruited for the study. Participants completed assessments of childhood abuse history, distress, impulsiveness and motives for substance use as well as a socio-demographic information sheet. Findings from bootstrap mediator analyses indicated that distress, but not impulsiveness, mediated the relationship between childhood emotional abuse and expansion and enhancement motives for substance use. The current study provides preliminary evidence that internalizing problems may function as a mechanism linking prior childhood experiences of emotional neglect to subsequent motives for substance use. Clinical implications of these findings suggest that targeting emotion dysregulation problems may be an effective adjunct in the treatment of adolescents with a history of childhood maltreatment that are at risk for substance use.

Keywords : childhood neglect, impulsiveness, internalizing problems, substance use motives

Conference Title : ICPP 2015 : International Conference on Pedagogy and Psychology

Conference Location : Istanbul, Türkiye

Conference Dates : September 28-29, 2015