Emerging issues in the study of behavioural addictions

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Tracks
BEHAVIOURAL ADDICTIONS

Presentations

Wednesday, 23 October

11:00
- Oral presentation
  Classification of behavioral addiction
  11:00 to 11:15  
  Insights zone 3 (L3)  
  Zsolt Demetovics

11:15
- Oral presentation
  Methodological consideration in the study of behavioral addictions
  11:15 to 11:30  
  Insights zone 1 (L3)  
  Hans-Jürgen Rumpf

11:30
- Oral presentation
  Theoretical approaches of behavioral addictions
  11:30 to 11:45  
  Insights zone 3 (L3)  
  Patrick Trotta

11:45
- Oral presentation
  Expert consensus on diagnostic criteria for assessing video gaming disorder: an International Delphi study
  11:45 to 12:00  
  Insights zone 3 (L3)  
  Josie Castro Calhe
Thematic track: Behavioral addictions
Co-producer’s name: Zsolt Demetrovics

Thematic session 1. – Emergent issues in the study of behavioral addictions

1. Classification of behavioral addiction

Zsolt Demetrovics
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Non-substance-related addictive disorders are often labeled as behavioral addictions. This umbrella term includes many different problematic behaviors having very different statuses in the nosological systems. Some of them are classified among addictive behaviors (i.e., ‘Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders’ in the DSM-5 or ‘Disorders due to substance use or addictive behaviours’ in the ICD-11), while others are classified in other sections of disorders (e.g., among ‘Obsessive-compulsive and related disorders’, ‘Disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorders’ etc.). Some further phenomena is not acknowledged as a distinct disorder in any of the classification systems (e.g., work addiction, compulsive buying, exercise addiction), while a big amount of research supports the recognition that at least many characteristics of these phenomena overlaps with the more established members of the addictive behaviors. The presentation summarizes our current knowledge on the classification of these disorders and phenomena, as well as discusses the theoretical considerations in the background of the possible classification approaches.

2. Methodological consideration in the study of behavioral addictions

Hans-Jürgen Rumpf
University of Lübeck, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Center for Integrative Psychiatry, Research Group S:TEP, Lübeck, Germany

This presentation will focus on methods used in studies on behavioral addictions. Unfortunately, high-quality studies are rare which increases random and systematic error in respective findings. The evidence-base for gambling disorder can be considered as good. In gaming disorder, the number of sound studies is increasing and evidence justifies including this condition in nosological systems like DSM and ICD. The paper will give recommendations for future research in the area of behavioral addictions to increase the methodological quality.

3. Theoretical approaches of behavioral addictions

Matthias Brand
General Psychology: Cognition and Center for Behavioral Addiction Research (CeBAR), University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Addictive behaviors, such as gambling disorder and gaming disorder, but also further behavioral addictions, such as buying-shopping disorder and compulsive sexual behaviors, potentially share some underlying psychological processes and neurobiological mechanisms. In current theoretical models, for example in the Interaction of Person-Affect-Cognition-Execution (I-PACE) model, it is argued that the interactions between cue-reactivity/ craving and diminished inhibitory control contribute to the development and maintenance of addictive behaviors. On the brain level, an imbalance between structures of fronto-striatal loops, including the ventral striatum, the amygdala, and the dorsolateral...
prefrontal and orbitofrontal areas, is likely relevant to early stages of addictive behaviors. The dorsal striatum is potentially involved in later stages of addictive processes. Future studies should investigate more explicitly potential moderating and mediating variables and should associate the psychological processes to neurobiological correlates based on theoretically-driven hypotheses. Using a uniform theoretical model and consistent experimental paradigms and methods, future studies may contribute to a better understanding of common and unique mechanisms involved in different types of addictive behaviors and may demonstrate commonalities and differences among addictive behaviors, substance-use disorders, and obsessive-compulsive-related disorders. In the talk, recently published theoretical models on the development and maintenance of specific behavioral addictions will be discussed. In addition, methodological approaches to studying predisposing factors, and moderating/mediating variables explaining specific types of behavioral addictions are reflected. Finally, based on theoretical assumptions and recent empirical findings, implications for clinical practice are proposed.

4. Expert consensus on diagnostic criteria for assessing video gaming disorder: An international Delphi study

Joel Billieux and Jesus Castro-Calvo
Addictive and Compulsive Behaviours Lab. Institute for Health and Behaviour, University of Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg

Internet Gaming Disorder (IGD) has been included as a condition for further study in the DSM-5 and Gaming Disorder (GD) has been recognized as a mental condition in the ICD-11. Yet, validity of the proposed criteria is still a matter of debate. The aim of the current study is to use a structured Delphi approach to reach expert consensus regarding the clinical validity, utility, and prognostic value of the nine DSM-5 criteria and the three ICD-11 clinical guidelines proposed to define GD. In this study, 30 renowned international experts with clinical and/or research experience in GD completed iterative rounds of a Delphi survey. Each new round, experts rated proposed criteria until a pre-established level of agreement was achieved. Criteria rated by 80% or more experts as “extremely important” or “very important” in the diagnosis of GD were included in the final proposal. As a result, this study provides the views of experts on the most relevant, valid, and well-accepted diagnostic criteria to define GD.