

Med-Sci 2013 Poster Presenter Abstracts

4. ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN ANXIETY DISORDERS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS IN SUBSTANCE-DEPENDENT ADOLESCENTS

Alexandra R. Wang, BA; Michael Scur, BA; Christina M. Delos Reyes, MD; Maria E. Pagano, PhD.

Background: Comorbid anxiety disorders and substance use disorders (SUDs) are common in adolescents. The purpose of this study is to examine the following in substance dependent adolescents: the association between anxiety disorders (social phobia, panic disorder, and agoraphobia) and SUDs; the order of onset between anxiety disorders and SUDs; and changes in the mean age of secondary disorder onset in the presence or absence of a primary disorder.

Methods: One-hundred ninety-five substance-dependent adolescents (50% female, aged 14-18) who were referred to a residential treatment program were assessed at intake. Age of first symptom onset for anxiety disorders and SUDs were measured using the Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview Plus (MINI-Plus).

Results: Social phobia and panic disorder preceded and increased the likelihood of marijuana dependency in adolescents. First use of marijuana occurred at earlier ages among adolescents with social phobia.

Conclusions: These results are consistent with the theory that onset ordering between anxiety disorder and SUD varies by disorder type.

Contact: arw71@case.edu