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الموجز

الأعراض الجانبية في الجهاز العصبي (الجهاز خارج الهرمي - الإكسترا بيراميدال) المترتبة على استعمال العقاقير النفسية في عينة من المرضى الفصامين المصريين

اتضح من هذه الدراسة التتبعية لعينة من مرضى الفصام المصريين الذين يعالجون بأقراص الفينوثيازين أن ٦٠٪ من مجموع العينة قد يتعاطون أدوية مضادة للشلل الرعاش بدون داع لاستعمالها ، كذلك ظهر أن احتمال رجوع الأعراض الجانبية خارج الجهاز الهرمي نتيجة للتوقف عن تعاطي العقاقير المضادة للشلل الرعاش قليل (٣٠٪) ، وعلى هذا فانه من الممكن افتراض أن الاختلافات الفردية المتعلقة بعوامل أيض الأحماض الأمينية المخية قد تؤثر على نسبة انتشار وطبيعة هذا النوع من الأعراض الجانبية .

ABSTRACT

Les manifestations extra-pyramidales produites par les drogues chez les malades schizophréniques égyptiens.

Un prospectif de suivre de près des malades schizophréniques égyptiens traités par l'administration orale des phenothiazines a montré que 60% des malades reçoivent des drogues antiparkinsoniens inutilement et que le risque du retour des manifestations extra-pyramidales suivant l'interruption des drogues antiparkinsoniens est très petit i.e. 30%. Nous pouvons en assumer que les variations sociales traduites en facteurs métaboliques contrôlant le changement des amines cérébrales peuvent influencer la prévalence et la nature des manifestations extra-pyramidales.

**The Non-Medical Use of Psychoactive Substances
Among Secondary School Male Students in
Egypt: An Epidemiological Study
(A Brief Report)**

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ABSTRACT

An epidemiological study of the non-medical use of psychoactive substances in a representative sample of the population of secondary schools in Cairo was carried out. A questionnaire was administered to about 6000 students derived from 126 classes distributed among 42 schools covering all socio-economic and population density continua. A preliminary inspection of the results showed Art students to be more involved in drug culture than Science students, the use of natural narcotics more prevalent than synthetic drugs. The findings were similar to those of other western studies.

INTRODUCTION

The present paper reports on an epidemiological study of the non-medical use of psychoactive substances by secondary school male students in Greater Cairo. The main aim of the study is to provide factual answers to the following questions:

1. How prevalent drug abuse is among male school students.
2. What are the psychoactive substances most commonly used?
3. What socio-psychological variables are meaningfully associated with the use of the substances.

PROCEDURE

The tool:

A questionnaire was constructed and standardized expressly for the present investigation. The endorsed questions were all orientated

towards eliciting responses pertaining to the nonmedical use of mood modifying drugs, in addition to minimum information thought to shed light on the etiology and the extent of the practice. The tool was first administered to about 200 students within the framework of a feasibility study. Analysis of the feedback data (including observations on the examinees as well as questionnaire responses) necessitated some modification in the wording of a number of items. The list of substances explicitly mentioned in the questionnaire items included synthetic drugs (stimulants, tranquilizers and hypnotics), natural narcotics (cannabis as well as opium), alcohol and tobacco. The tool included 87 questions generating 123 basic queries.

To estimate its reliability the questionnaire was administered twice to a group of 241 students (representing various grades in two schools) with two weeks interval between testing and retesting. Since anonymity of respondents was emphasized through the work, we developed a coding system to make possible computing a test-retest reliability without revealing the identity of our subjects. A limited sample of stability estimates, prepared explicitly for the present report shows that the information we are presenting is reasonably reliable. For 35 basic queries we got the following estimates of reliability. Percentages of agreement between testing and retesting for 28 units ranged between 67 and 100 with a median value of 93%. Coefficients of correlation for 7 other units ranged from 0.70 to 1.00 with a median coefficient of 0.85.

Field researchers :

Nineteen field researchers, all graduates of psychology, social work or sociology were recruited for the job. They were all males with previous experience in field studies. A course of training was especially designed to give them the necessary orientation. The course was short but intensive starting with introductory lectures on drug dependence to illuminate the specifics of drug research, and ending up with a detailed study of the items included in our questionnaire. Problems anticipated to emerge during administration were discussed and ways of meeting such problems were recommended. The field researchers were also

given written instructions on how to present the questionnaire to the subjects in a standardized form. When the actual field work began, weekly meetings were held regularly for the workers headed by some members of the "Standing Project" to provide solutions to unforeseen difficulties emanating through work. Arrangements were also made for field researchers to get in immediate contact with members of the Project whenever urgent or 'on the spot' solutions were needed. It should be noted that the workers were generously paid with the intention of reinforcing a positive attitude towards our instruction.

Subjects :

The plan was worked out to collect data from a representative sample of the population of secondary school students in Great Cairo. For a number of reasons 7% of the target population was thought to be a good size to aim at. The questionnaire was finally administered (group testing) to about 6,000 students derived from 126 classes distributed among 42 schools representing the districts of the city in so far as they vary along socio-economic and population density continua. It took us a month (from March 10th to April 10th 1978) to get all the data collected. Our group of examinees ranged in ages between 14 and 21 years with a modal value of 17. The sample did not seem to be consistently biased on any of the relevant demographic data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A quick analysis has been carried out expressly to be presented in this article. Meanwhile an extensive report is in the process of being prepared.

Inspection of the table could readily reveal some meaningful findings. **Natural narcotics** (viz. hashish and opium) seem to be filling place around our subjects more than synthetic drugs. The examinees hear about narcotics and know that they are used by friends and relatives

TABLE I

Percentages of secondary school male students with various kinds
and/or degrees of exposure to nonmedical use of psychoactive substances.

Question no. as presented in the question- naire	Questions	1st grade N= 642 %	2nd grade N= 738 %	3rd grade N = 472 %
28	Do you smoke cigarettes ?	11.68	18.97	33.90
29	Did you hear about tranqui- lizers ?	43.46	57.99	55.72
30	Did you hear about stimulants?	29.44	47.15	44.28
31	Did you hear about hypnotics ?	41.12	55.15	50.42
34	Do you have any friends who take such drugs without medical prescription ?	13.86	21.54	28.39
35	Do you have any relations who take such drugs without medical prescription ?	9.35	11.25	13.35
39	Did you ever try a tranquilizer ?	15.42	6.78	9.75
	Did you ever try a simulant ?	15.26	6.78	9.32
	Did you ever try a hypnotic ?	15.89	6.91	10.81
44	Do you still take such drugs ?	7.63	2.98	13.14
51	Did you hear about hashish or opium ?	79.44	89.30	91.74
53	Do you have friends who use such substances ?	21.18	32.79	48.52
54	Do you have relatives who use such substances ?	11.37	16.40	22.46
56	Did you ever take such sub- stances ?	5.76	12.60	24.15
62	Do you still take substances as hashish or opium ?	1.20	1.76	5.93
69	Did you hear about alcoholic beverages.	82.71	91.60	91.74
71	Do you have friends who drink alcohol ?	34.27	40.38	52.97
72	Do you have relatives who drink alcohol ?	26.32	25.75	30.72
74	Did you ever drink beer ?	42.37	41.46	60.17
	Did you ever drink wine ?	14.17	13.69	18.43
	Did you ever drink whisky ?	11.37	15.45	20.97
	Did you ever drink other such beverages ?	4.83	6.37	10.59
79	Do you still drink alcoholic beverages ?	1.09	10.16	11.86

more than they hear or know about synthetic drugs. This seems to be consistent with and perhaps leading to another fact, namely that our subjects reported to have been experimenting more with narcotics than with synthetic substances. Age tended to be associated, but in a complex way, with prevalence of contact with the drugs. The older groups hear and know about drugs more than the younger subjects do. Moreover, the elderly experiment more than youngsters do with narcotics but less with synthetic substances. It seems that the vogue for synthetic substances came rather late for the elderly to be able to catch up with it. An additional interesting finding is the fact that Arts students seem to be more exposed than their science colleagues to the drug culture.

These are some of our results which we find interesting. These findings bear some similarity to epidemiological data reported in the West. For example, the relative positions of tobacco, cannabis and synthetic drugs are almost the same here in Egypt 1978 as they used to be in Canada in 1970 (Smart, 1971). The fact that arts students were found to be more involved in the drug culture than were science students has also been reported in a number of studies from Canada and from the United States. We prefer, however, to exercise caution in interpreting our present findings and in making any extrapolations until all the data has been analysed.

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الموجز

دراسة مصرية وبائية عن الاستعمال غير الطبي للمواد ذات المفعول النفسى بين طلبة المدارس الثانوية

قدمت هذه الدراسة مسحاً وبائياً للاستعمال غير الطبي للمواد ذات المفعول النفسى فى عينة ممثلة من طلبة المدارس الثانوية فى القاهرة ، ولقد قام الباحثون بتطبيق استبيان خاص على ما يقرب من ٦٠٠٠ طالبا موزعين على ١٢٦ فصلا دراسيا فى ٤٢ مدرسة ثانوية ، ولقد روعى أن تضم العينة المستويات الاجتماعية والاقتصادية المختلفة ، وكذلك الكثافة السكانية وضعت فى الاعتبار ، وقد أوضح الفحص الأولى للنتائج أن طلبة المدارس الفنية ينغمسون أكثر من طلبة الثانوية العامة فى تعاطى هذه المواد ، كذلك اتضح أن المغيبات الطبيعية تستعمل أكثر من الأدوية الصناعية ، وهذه النتائج تشبه الى حد ما نتائج مماثلة فى المجتمعات الغربية .

ABSTRAIT

L'emploi Non-Médical des substances psychoactives parmi les Etudiants des écoles secondaires en Egypte : une Etude Epidemiologique. (Un rapport Bref)

Une étude épidémiologique de l'emploi non-médical des substances psychoactives dans un échantillon représentative de la population des

écoles secondaires a été faite. Un questionnaire a été administré à 6 000 étudiants provenant de 126 classes distribués parmi 42 écoles touchant tous les niveaux socio-économiques et les différentes densités de la population. L'inspection préliminaire des résultats a montré que les étudiants de l'Art sont plus impliqués dans l'affaire de l'emploi non-médical des substances psychoactives que les étudiants des Sciences. De même, on a trouvé que l'emploi des narcotiques naturels est plus prévalent que les drogues synthétiques. Les découvertes de cette étude sont semblables à celles des autres études occidentales.