

Tobacco dependence in psychiatric disorder

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The present work aimed to study how can psychiatric disorders (schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and substance abuse) affect the dependence of nicotine. The study included 95 patients (39 schizophrenic, 36 bipolar disorder and 30 substance abuse), in addition to a similar number of healthy controls. Both patients and control were assessed for nicotine dependence using DSM IV criteria as well as Fagerstrom test for nicotine dependence. Twenty-five schizophrenic patients showed nicotine dependence, compared to 6 control subjects, while 23 patients out of 30 bipolar compared to only 6 controls, and 24 substance abuse patients out of 30 showed positive nicotine dependence compared to only 8 controls. Higher rates of nicotine dependence were observed in various psychiatric disorder patients.