

The phenomenon of attempted suicide among a sample of Egyptian heroin abusers: A controlled clinical and psychometric study

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Several studies showed that suicidal thoughts and attempts are rather related to the demographical characteristics and psychiatric co-morbidity and family history of suicide of the addictive person. This study is to look for the phenomenon of suicide in Egyptian heroin patients and what are the risk factors for this phenomenon. A case-controlled clinical and psychometric study of two groups of heroin abusers' one of suicide attempters' and the second is of nonattempters.

Demographical, relevant clinical data, and several scales including HIDS, HAS, Hopelessness scale, Suicidal Ideation scale and addiction severity index were administered. Showed that the most significant risk factors in heroin abusers' who attempt suicide are reported positive family history of suicide, depression and feeling hopeless. Heroin abusers who attempted suicide have a hereditary predisposition and/or depression aggravated by their drug abuse, resulting in the occurrence of suicidal attempts in this group of mental patients.