

Acquisition of sexually transmitted infections in adolescents attending an urban, general HMO teen clinic.

Boyer CB; Sebro NS; Wibbelsman C; Shafer MA. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 39(2): 287-290, 2006. (15 refs.)

To determine association between acquisition of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) over a nine-month period among sexually experienced adolescents attending an urban, general HMO teen clinic and African American race, use of marijuana more than once or twice a week, and having had relationships with a sexual partner who is more than four years older. Copyright 2006, Society for Adolescent Medicine.

Life with jib: A snapshot of street youth's use of crystal methamphetamine.

Bungay V; Malchy L; Buxton JA; Johnson J; Macpherson D; Rosenfeld T. *Addiction Research & Theory* 14(3): 235-251, 2006. (35 refs.)

Crystal methamphetamine (CM) is a psychoactive form of methamphetamine whose effects include euphoria, alertness, restlessness, feelings of endless energy, sleep deprivation, depression, paranoia, acute psychosis, and malnutrition. CM use among street-involved youth is high, yet little is known about their patterns of use, the side effects they experience, and the ways in which they manage their drug use and survive on the streets. We undertook a small qualitative study among inner-city, street-involved youth to explore the social context of their CM use. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with twelve youth. Data were analyzed using thematic analysis and four key themes were identified: Patterns of Jib Use, Reasons for Using Jib, Downside of Using, and Managing Jib Use. Each theme revealed interrelationships between drug use and street-involvement. The youth used CM to stay awake to protect belongings, to enhance social interaction, to cope with negative emotions, and as an alternative to psychiatric medications. The negative consequences of CM use included deteriorating physical and mental health, exploitation, isolation, and physical harm. These youth were knowledgeable about their drug use and capable of creatively adapting to many of the related consequences. Social service agencies and health care professionals were not identified as helpful

in managing their drug use and its side effects. Although the sample size was small, this data gives insight for policy and program planning aimed at providing treatment and support for street-involved youth using CM. Copyright 2006, Taylor & Francis.

The relationship between watching professional wrestling on television and engaging in date fighting among high school students.

DuRant RH; Champion H; Wolfson M. *Pediatrics* 118(2): E265-E272, 2006. (37 refs.)

Context. Previous research has found that exposure to violence in the home, community, and electronic media are associated with children's and adolescents' normative expectations concerning the use of violence and with other indicators of the violent behaviors by youth. Objective. Our purpose with this study was to examine the relationships between the frequency that high school students reported watching wrestling on television and engaging in date fighting, weapon carrying, and other fighting behaviors. DESIGN. The initial analysis consisted of a cross-sectional study of a simple random sample of high school students, which was followed by a longitudinal analysis of these students over a 6- to 7-month period. SETTING. The setting was all public high schools in 1 city/county system. Participants. We used a simple random sample (N = 2228) of students. Main Outcome Measures. The primary outcome variables included the frequency of date fighting during the previous 12 months and alcohol or other drug involvement associated with the last date fight. Results. There were significant correlations between frequency of watching wrestling on television during the previous 2 weeks and engaging in date fighting, fighting in general, and weapon carrying for both males and females, although the relationships were stronger among females than among males. The frequency of watching wrestling was highest among students reporting date fighting when either the victim or perpetrator had been drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs. When analyzed using logistic regression, the strongest relationships were observed between the frequency of watching wrestling and date-fight perpetration among females in cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses. These findings persisted after adjusting for multiple other factors. Conclusions. For males and females, the

frequency of watching wrestling was highest among students who fought with their dates when alcohol or other drugs were involved. The association between watching wrestling and date fighting was stronger among females than males. The relationship between watching wrestling on television and being the perpetrator of dating violence was also stronger among females and remained consistent over a 6- to 7-month time period. Copyright 2006, American Academy of Pediatrics.

Teenagers are right: Parents do not know much. An analysis of adolescent-parent agreement on reports of adolescent substance use, abuse, and dependence.

Fisher SL; Bucholz KK; Reich W; Fox L; Kuperman S; Kramer J et al. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* 30(10): 1699-1710, 2006. (38 refs.)

Background: Previous studies have shown that when assessing child psychopathology, parents tend to report more symptoms than children for externalizing disorders such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), whereas children tend to report more symptoms for internalizing disorders such as major depression. Whether for clinical or research purposes, parents are also frequently asked to report on their children's experiences with alcohol and drugs. The purpose of this study was to analyze correspondence between adolescent and parent reports of adolescent substance use and abuse or dependence. Methods: In the current study, 591 subjects 12 to 17 years old were interviewed using the child version of the Semi-Structured Assessment for the Genetics of Alcoholism (C-SSAGA) as part of the Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA). One parent was also interviewed about each adolescent using the parent version of the C-SSAGA. Sensitivities, specificities, and kappa coefficients were calculated to assess parental agreement with adolescent reports of lifetime substance use and Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-Third Revision substance abuse or dependence. Results: The results indicate that parents are somewhat knowledgeable about their children's use of substances, particularly those that are used most commonly. For example, 55% of adolescents who had smoked cigarettes, 50% who had used alcohol, and 47% who had used marijuana had a parent who knew that they used. However, parents were less aware of substance-related problems experienced by their offspring, agreeing with adolescent reports only 27% of the time for diagnoses of alcohol abuse or dependence and 26% of the time for diagnoses of marijuana abuse or dependence. Parent reports added

few cases of substance use for 12- to 13 year-olds and essentially no cases for 16- to 17-year-olds. Parent reports added a nominal number of diagnoses of substance abuse or dependence for older adolescents. Conclusions: Whether for clinical or research purposes, the results emphasize the importance of directly assessing adolescents regarding alcohol and other substance use disorders. Furthermore, investigators should consider the specific disorder(s) being investigated and the ages of the children being studied when determining whether to include parent reports as part of study design. Copyright 2006, Research Society on Alcoholism.

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance - United States, 2005.

Eaton DK; Kann L; Kinchen S; Ross J; Hawkins J; Harris WA et al. *Journal of School Health* 76(7): 353-372, 2006. (13 refs.)

In the United States, 71% of all deaths among persons aged 10-24 years result from 4 causes: motor vehicle crashes, other unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide. Results from the 2005 national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) indicated that during the 30 days preceding the survey, many high school students engaged in behaviors that increased their likelihood of death from these 4 causes: 9.9% had driven a car or other vehicle when they had been drinking alcohol, 18.5% had carried a weapon, 43.3% had drunk alcohol, and 20.2% had used marijuana. In addition, during the 12 months preceding the survey, 35.9% of high school students had been in a physical fight and 8.4% had attempted suicide. Substantial morbidity and social problems among youth also result from unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, including human immunodeficiency virus infection. During 2005, a total of 46.8% of high school students had ever had sexual intercourse, 37.2% of sexually active high school students had not used a condom at last sexual intercourse, and 2.1% had ever injected an illegal drug. Among adults aged \geq 25 years, 61% of all deaths result from 2 causes: cardiovascular disease and cancer. Results from the 2005 National YRBS indicated that risk behaviors associated with these 2 causes of death were initiated during adolescence. During 2005, a total of 23.0% of high school students had smoked cigarettes during the 30 days preceding the survey, 79.9% had not eaten \geq 5 times/day of fruits and vegetables during the 7 days preceding the survey, 67.0% did not attend physical education classes daily, and 13.1% were overweight. Copyright 2006, Blackwell Publishing.

Adolescent alcohol and cannabis use in relation to peer and school factors: Results of multilevel analyses.

Kuntsche E; Jordan MD. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 84(2): 167-174, 2006. (50 refs.)

The present study used a multilevel approach with multiple informants to determine whether, at individual level, association with substance-using peer groups, and, at class level, incidences of intoxicated students in school premises, are related to students' own substance use. Additionally, it tested the hypothesis that such school incidences affect the closeness of the relation between association with substance-using peers and students' own substance use. Multilevel regression models were estimated separately for drunkenness and cannabis use on the basis of cross-sectional data from 3925 students of eighth and ninth grades in Switzerland (mean age 15.3, S.D. 0.9) and their teachers (N=220). For both drunkenness and cannabis use, the results confirmed that association with substance-using peers is strongly related to individual substance-use. A higher level of students' own cannabis use and a closer relation between association with cannabis-using peers and the students' own cannabis use were found in classes where students saw others coming cannabis-intoxicated to school or taking cannabis in school premises. Such relations were not found for alcohol. It appears that cannabis use at school or shortly before arriving at school creates an atmosphere that favors cannabis use whether or not students are associated with cannabis-using peers. Establishing an overarching environment of disapproval appears to be an effective means of preventing cannabis use by adolescents. Copyright 2006, Elsevier Science.

Psychosocial correlates of adolescent drug dealing in the inner city: Potential roles of opportunity, conventional commitments, and maturity.

Little M; Steinberg L. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 43(4): 357-386, 2006. (55 refs.)

This study examined a model of the simultaneous and interactive influence of social context, psychosocial attitudes, and individual maturity on the prediction of urban adolescent drug dealing. Five factors were found to significantly increase adolescents' opportunity for drug selling: low parental monitoring, poor neighborhood conditions, low neighborhood job opportunity, parental substance use or abuse, and high levels of peer group deviance. The relation between drug-selling opportunity and adolescents' frequency of drug selling was partially mediated by adolescents' alienation from conventional goals and from commitment to school. With the effect of drug-dealing

opportunity controlled, adolescents' temperance was associated with a lower frequency of drug selling. Youths with greater resistance to peer influence reported a higher frequency of nonmarijuana drug dealing. Adolescent autonomy also predicted adolescents' nonmarijuana dealing in conditions of low drug-selling opportunity. The results are discussed with respect to the social service needs of serious juvenile offenders. Copyright 2006, Sage Publications.

Relations between alcohol, violence and victimization in adolescence.

Shepherd JP; Sutherland I; Newcombe RG. *Journal of Adolescence* 29(4): 539-553, 2006. (18 refs.)

Background: Compared to links between alcohol and aggression, links between alcohol and vulnerability are poorly understood. Objectives: To determine whether there is a significant relationship between vulnerability to physical violence and alcohol consumption in adolescence independent of a relationship between alcohol consumption and violent behaviour. Design, setting, participants: Cross-sectional study of 4187 adolescents aged 11-16 in a stratified sample of 13 English schools. Results: Fighting decreased with age whereas hitting others and being hit increased. Relationships between fighting, hitting others and vulnerability to being hit and frequency of drinking and drunkenness were all highly significant ($p < 0.0001$), and were evident at all ages. The outcome most strongly related to frequency of drunkenness was hitting others (odds ratio (OR) 6.62), followed by being hit (OR 4.01) and fighting (OR 2.10). Alcohol consumption and drunkenness remained significantly and independently associated with vulnerability to being hit after adjusting for violent behaviour as well as age and sex. Conclusions: These findings indicate an association between alcohol and victimization independent of associations of both with physical aggression. Reducing intoxication may reduce victimisation without necessarily affecting violent behaviour. Violence reduction should focus as much on preventing alcohol misuse among victims or potential victims as among offenders. Copyright 2006, The Association for Professionals in Services for Adolescents.

Evidence for a hallucinogen dependence syndrome developing soon after onset of hallucinogen use during adolescence.

Stone AL; Storr CL; Anthony JC. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology* 15(3): 116-130, 2006. (32 refs.)

This study uses latent class methods and multiple regression to shed light on hypothesized hallucinogen dependence syndromes experienced by young people

who have recently initiated hallucinogen use. It explores possible variation in risk. The study sample, identified within public-use data files of the 1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA), consists of 1186 recent-onset hallucinogen users, defined as having initiated hallucinogen use within 24 months of assessment (Median elapsed time since onset of use similar to 12 to 13 months). The recent-onset users in this sample were age 12 to 21 at the time of assessment and were between the ages of 10 and 21 at the time of their first hallucinogen use. The NHSDA included items to assess seven clinical features often associated with hallucinogen dependence, which were used in latent class modelling. Latent class analysis, in conjunction with prior theory, supports a three-class solution, with 2% of recent-onset users in a class that resembles a hallucinogen dependence syndrome, whereas 88% expressed few or no clinical features of dependence. The remaining 10% may reflect users who are at risk for dependence or in an early stage of dependence. Results from latent class regressions indicate that susceptibility to rapid transition from first hallucinogen use to onset of this hallucinogen dependence syndrome might be influenced by hallucinogenic compounds taken (for example, estimated relative risk, RR = 2.4, 95% CI = 1.6, 76 for users of MDMA versus users of LSD). Excess risk of rapid transition did not appear to depend upon age, sex, or race/ethnicity. Copyright 2006, Whurr Publishers Ltd.

Sibling influence on alcohol use in a young adult, high-risk sample.

Trim RS; Leuthe E; C-Iassin L. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol* 67(3): 391-398, 2006. (36 refs.)

Objective: Previous research has found that siblings resemble each other in terms of alcohol use but has not examined sibling influence in young adult or high-risk siblings. The current study tested whether siblings prospectively influenced each other's alcohol use and how gender matching, age differences, and family conflict might moderate such effects. Method: Data from sibling pairs (n = 169 pairs) in an ongoing longitudinal study of children of alcoholics and matched controls were collected at two time points 5 years apart. Results: Older sibling alcohol use predicted younger sibling alcohol use, even after controlling for membership in a shared peer group and for parental alcoholism. However, moderator variables qualified this effect, such that older sibling influence was significant only among sibling pairs who were of

the same gender, closer in age, and from higher conflict families. Younger sibling influence was significant only for sibling pairs close in age, suggesting the presence of reciprocal peer-like effects in this subgroup. Conclusions: The current study provides evidence for sibling influence on alcohol use into adulthood, but the extent of this influence depends on sibling similarity in age and gender and on levels of family conflict. Implications for family-based theory and intervention efforts are discussed. Copyright 2006, Alcohol Research Documentation, Inc.

Comorbidity between alcohol dependence and illicit drug dependence in adolescents with antisocial behavior and matched controls.

Rhee SH; Hewitt JK; Young SE; Corley RP; Crowley TJ; Neale MC et al. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 84(1): 85-92, 2006. (40 refs.)

Background: Knowledge regarding the causes of comorbidity among substance use disorders can have significant impact on future research examining the etiology of these disorders. Unfortunately, the conclusions of past studies examining the comorbidity among substance use disorders are conflicting; some studies emphasize familial influences common to multiple substances, while others emphasize substance-specific influences. Discrepancies in results may reflect different analytical approaches or differences in the samples. Here, we examine the causes of comorbidity between alcohol dependence and illicit drug dependence in adolescents. Methods: We ascertained a clinical sample of adolescents treated for antisocial behavior and substance use disorders and their siblings and a matched control sample. A model fitting approach was used to test 13 alternative hypotheses for the causes of comorbidity. Results: The best supported hypothesis for the comorbidity between alcohol dependence and illicit drug dependence was a model hypothesizing that comorbid disorders are alternate forms of a single underlying liability. The next best fitting models were two of the correlated liabilities models (correlated risk factors and reciprocal causation). Discussion: The results suggest that the best hypotheses explaining the comorbidity between alcohol and illicit drug dependence in adolescents are that alcohol dependence and illicit drug dependence are manifestations of a single general liability to develop substance dependence or that there are separate liabilities that are highly correlated. Copyright 2006, Elsevier Science.