

This workshop will discuss several impulse-control disorders, such as pathological gambling (PG) and kleptomania, and present an expanded conceptualization of their phenomenology.

PG might be considered as an obsessive-compulsive spectrum disorder, a form of non-pharmacological addiction or an impulse control disorder. Accordingly, we will present three subtypes of pathological gamblers: the 'impulsive' subtype, the 'obsessive-compulsive' subtype, and the 'addictive' subtype.

Kleptomania is an impulse control disorder, but may be a form of obsessive compulsive spectrum disorder. On the other hand some authors described the kleptomaniac behaviour as an addiction.

Based on these considerations we will bring together knowledge from clinical experience, neuroimaging examination and neuropsychological assessment, that might lead to better and wider understanding of these conditions. We will present a study that examined whether pathological gambling, a disorder belonging to the OC Spectrum, is characterized by dysfunctional cognitions as in OCD. OCD patients exhibited higher OCD cognitions than both panic patients and normal controls, but equal to PG patients. Pathological gamblers exhibited, however, no increase in OCD symptoms. These mixed results do not seem to support the OC Spectrum theory for PG.

We will also present recent publications on reward sensitivity and decision making in addictive behaviours and discuss the importance of identification and clarification of the neural substrates involved in decision-making.

Finally, we will summarize the rapidly accumulating body of knowledge related to the neurobiology of impulsiveness from multi-disciplinary neuropsychological and neuroimaging studies.

W17. Workshop: YOUNG PSYCHIATRISTS NETWORK IN EUROPE

W17.01

Networking in psychiatry, towards a new adventure!

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In the last two decades networking in psychiatry has become more and more important. The globalisation makes the world smaller and it has been easier for young psychiatrists around the planet to meet and share

their ideas about research, education and training, avocation and patient care. Two of the main young psychiatrist's initiatives that reflect the importance of such international networks, are: the European Federation for Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT) founded in 1992 in the UK and the World Association of Young Psychiatrists and Trainees (WAYPT) founded in San Francisco (2003). In this presentation we will discuss benefits and difficulties these organizations meet.

W17.02

The situation of training in psychiatry in south eastern europe and the relevance of young psychiatrists' networks: Experiences from Croatia

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Background and Aims: Croatian Young Psychiatrists and Psychiatric Trainees Section was founded on December 15, 2005. as part of Croatian Psychiatric Association, established to promote different activities using network of young psychiatrists across the world. In order to indicate activities that could fulfill possible gaps in our educational system, we performed a study among psychiatry residents and young specialists from different Croatian psychiatric centers.

Methods: 91 participants answered the questionnaire constructed to obtain information about profile of young psychiatrist in Croatia, objective parameters of educational quality to produce competent psychiatrist, evaluation of residency training and suggestions of how to improve the current educational system.

Results: Study results indicate that Croatian psychiatry residents are derived from a pool of average to above average medical students and majority is engaged in postgraduate studies and research activities and shows high interest in specific psychiatric fields such as psychotherapy and clinical psychiatry, but low interest in community psychiatry and mental health. Most of participants are only partially satisfied with the current residency training and feel that most problems reside from the lack of practical psychotherapy, the inefficiency of the mentorship system and the lack of opportunities for student's exchanges with other countries.

Conclusion: The results of this study revealed the major problems of psychiatry residents in Croatia. Following those results, we will perform the study that would include mentors and supervisors from different Croatian psychiatric centers. That could enable the development of specific interventions with aim to improve current residency training in Croatia.