

Risk factors associated with injection initiation among youth drug users admitted to the three drug treatment centers in Tehran

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Circumstances surrounding injection initiation have not been well addressed in many developing country contexts. A cross-sectional survey was conducted among drug users. The population consisted of Drug users were admitted for inpatient treatment. Three Drug Treatment Centers in Tehran were selected by randomization. Participants were selected consecutively in every Drug Treatment Center. A total of 1000 drug users were included into this analysis. A structured questionnaire was used. A multiple logistic regression was employed to identify the independent effects from potential risk factors of transition into injection. Variables that were included in the initial and final multiple logistic models were based on statistical significance ($p < 0.05$) scientific importance. After controlling other covariates, being 25 years of age or older, single, higher education, urban residence, being unemployed, having a history of incarceration and lack of awareness about transmission ways of AIDS were significantly associated with higher likelihood of injection initiation. Smoking (99.4%) was very common. Multiple sex partners and an experience of sex abuse and engaged in prostitution were associated with an increased risk of injection initiation. Comparing to those whose first drug was heroin and Crack, individuals using opium as their initiation drug, Family injection drug use, friends, partners or schoolmates injection drug use had greater risk of injection initiation ($p < 0.05$). Age of drug initiation didn't have a significant impact on the likelihood of starting injection. Understanding these factors will benefit the design of approaches to successfully prevent or delay transition into injection.

Biography

Soghra Nikpour is an Assistant professor in Center for Nursing Care Research, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Tehran University of Medical Sciences and Health Services, Tehran, Iran. She has published more than 46 papers in reputed journals and serving as an editorial board member of reputed. She has done 27 research proposals in different fields. She has taken part in many scientific congresses in different countries and delivered lectures.

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