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PHYSICAL HEALTH OF PATIENTS WITH DRUG USE DISORDERS

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Aim: To describe the physical health profile of patients with drug use disorders who were included in the study of adaptation-validation of the Addiction Severity Index 6th version (ASI-6) into Spanish.

Method: Multicentre, observational, longitudinal, prospective study. A total of 194 substance dependent/abuser individuals were included. Assessments were made with the Spanish ASI-6.

Results: Men were 79.9%, mean ages were 41.08 (SD 11.64), 42.3% were single and 87.6% were acute patients. The severity score in the Physical Health area was 44.32 (SD 9.51). The most prevalent diseases were: 25.3% hepatitis, 11.9% had high blood pressure, 8.2% cirrhosis or hepatic disease, 6.7% epilepsy or convulsions and 5.7% tuberculoses. No statistically significant differences were found according to gender. Acute patients had statistically significant higher proportion of pregnant woman (2.3% vs. 0% $p < 0.05$) and lower proportion of diabetes (3.5% vs. 12.5% $p = 0.05$).

Conclusions: Patients with drug use disorders have a mild-moderate severity of physical health. Physical health is not influenced by gender, but it is by the clinical state.