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**GENDER DIFFERENCES IN COCAINE-DEPENDENT PATIENTS**

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**Introduction:** Cocaine dependence disorder has been widely described. However, differences due to gender remain unknown.

**Aim:** To compare clinical gender differences in a large sample of cocaine-dependent patients.

**Methods:** We performed a cross-sectional, observational study in 902 patients (35.47 yo, 21.3% women) with a cocaine dependence according DSM-IV criteria, seeking treatment during 2005 to 2013. Sociodemographic and clinical variables were collected. The SCID-I, SCID-II, BIS and a structured interview about cocaine-induced psychosis were performed. Simple descriptive statistics were carried out for demographic and clinical data. Bivariate analysis was made to compare the main variables by sex using SPSSv18.0.

**Results:** No differences in age of dependence onset, other clinical variables or cocaine-induced psychosis were detected. However, less cocaine used in the last month (2.12 vs 3.37g) ( $p < 0.009$ ), more impulsivity (67.2 vs 63.03) ( $p < 0.040$ ), and more sedative dependence (21.2% vs 8.3%) ( $p < 0.00$ ) were detected in women than in men. Affective disorders lifetime were the most prevalent (57,4%) in women. More comorbidity with anxiety disorders ( $p < 0.025$ ) eating disorders ( $p < 0.000$ ) and personality disorders ( $p < 0.039$ ) were detected in women than in men.

**Conclusions:** Sedative dependence and anxiety disorders should be investigated in cocaine-dependent women in order to treat these conditions. Surprisingly high impulsivity level was detected and could moderate cocaine consumption. However, no difference have been found previously in studies about gender differences in cocaine-dependent patients, so this finding should be confirm in new studies.