# ARTICLE

# ANALYZING AND RECOGNIZING CAUSES OF DRUG TENDENCY AND CHANGING CONSUMER PATTERN FROM LOW-RISK DRUGS (TRADITIONAL) TO HIGH RISK (SYNTHETIC)

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# **ABSTRACT**

Addiction is a serious damage in personal, family and social areas. By identifying and investigating the causes of changes in patterns of drug use can have guidance and support programs which are related to drug control and prevention of drug industry. The purpose of this study is analyzing and recognizing causes of drug tendency and changing consumer trends from traditional drugs to synthetic in Ardabil Province, 2014-2015. The research method is a survey and questionnaire was used to collect the required information. The statistical population clients rehab centers and drug rehabilitation camps of welfare organization in Ardabil Province and sampling was done randomly for this purpose 150 addicted to the narcotics industry trends that have been eligible to participate in this study and 120 of them were selected and accepted to cooperate. The validity of research tools was based on expert opinion and the validity of the questionnaire with Cronbach's alpha coefficient was used to change the pattern of drug use that was 97%. Based on data analysis, descriptive and inferential statistics and using SPSS software it was summarized and concluded and also with regard to the issues raised in this project proposals have been discussed.

#### INTRODUCTION

#### **KEY WORDS**

Addiction, traditional drugs, synthetic drugs, addicts, drug consumption patterns

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Methamphetamine addiction is a public health problem that has spread around the world and especially areas such as East and South Asia, Australia, America and Britain more than the rest of the world. As it was highlighted in the 2002 report of the UN Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to a growing trend of methamphetamine seizures was mentioned 28% and methamphetamine production is estimated up to 500 tons.

Today, drug use among the population has increased alarmingly. That made drug use as the positive norm and has become a part of life and social habits in different groups of society. Drug use in the current situation is gradually exited from the traditional approach and young people have turned to use synthetic chemicals drugs. Some officials and experts of social problems, the cause of this is social and cultural changes together with the modern world knowledge and believes that due to social and cultural changes, it is affected traditional and developing societies and faced people with large volumes of information, and this makes some young people to use drugs in order to gain new experiences, fun, happiness, recreation and relief from loneliness and isolation. The expansion of synthetic drug is rooted in people wrong beliefs. Due to lack of knowledge of the hazards and consequences of synthetic materials and ignoring the effects of a group of community with false beliefs, so that in their imagination the recreational use and experience the enjoyment and pleasure is just once and will not cause addiction. Unaware of the fact that many addicts of synthetic drugs action taken with the same motivation and using once creates positive sentiment to continue in their consumption and cause psychological dependence on such materials. Also the average of age of synthetic drug has declined. Today, young people at the beginning of their smoking use crack and heroin. Being cheap, imitation of others, diversity, satisfaction of the drug and no evil drug friends at parties, other factor, including changing patterns among the young of traditional and synthetic drug use. Socio-cultural problems, lack of religious beliefs and convictions, poverty and economic problems have increased personal problems and those who are not able to solve the problem, the shortest and riskiest way is using drug. Although addiction in general will not are eradicated but knowing factors in changing patterns of drug use from traditional to synthetic optimized scheduling led by experts in order to reduce injuries in today's society. The purpose of this study was to determine factors that change the pattern of psychotropic drug use from traditional to synthetic. Traditional drugs, growing from the soil, affect the body more and relax the body and relieve pain. Synthetic stimulant drugs are substances that stimulate nerves and, by acting on the brain's reward center pleasurable effects such as euphoria, fatigue, feeling more alert, raising the mood. Drug use, although not the same as before need fire and charcoal, but by changing the consumption patterns of traditional to synthetic, we see an increase in risks to users of such material. If in past there were only a few drugs on the market and consumers had to rely on the same traditional materials; but today narcotics industry, has provided wide market and variety of choices for the addict.

# Statement of the problem

According to the Iranian Drugs Control Headquarters has identified a million and 200 thousand number of who are addicted thousand people and also 800 use drugs for fun. The exact number is not known in Iran's dependence on methamphetamine, but in the past few years has been a growing trend. Widespread prevalence of methamphetamine use is very worrying and the spread of methamphetamine in America requires research on the etiology of effective treatments. Addiction treatment was planned based on the

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needs of men in the past, but in the past few years, research has shown that therapies for women have effective results. Changing patterns of drug use from traditional materials and chemical industries and the use of psychotropic pills is a serious threat to modern societies which are in crisis. The identification of more than 4,000 psychotropic tablets in recent years in the country, showing a tendency to consume synthetic drugs among today's generation and while the harms of these drugs, is far more grievous than traditional drugs. June 26 is named as the World Anti-Drug Day. World Anti-Drugs Day slogan for 2015 is "Let's live together and make our community and our identity free of drugs". It is hoped that with regard to this motto and in line with the anti-drug policy that the Islamic Republic of Iran is running, with public efforts we can take basic steps for a world free of drugs. One of the adverse effects of the modern world is expansion of synthetic drugs and expands the use of such material and change the traditional way of using drugs to synthetic have followed by social, judicial and police response. Now the cases where had serious concerns of families, the community and the authorities is expanding the use of synthetic drugs among young people, regardless of its effects. The youth of today prefer instead of traditional drugs such as opium, consume chemicals and new synthetic drugs. Today, the modern world has made things easier for everyone. One of the consequences of the modern world is the expansion of modern lifestyle in the shortest possible time man meets their needs. In other words, the use of traditional drugs requires time as well as equipment and accessories, but chemical drugs and its use do not take much time and synthetic drugs can be quickly used in every situation.

#### The research objectives

- Recognizing causes of drug tendency and changing consumer trends from traditional drugs to synthetic in Ardabil Province
- Review and understand the current situation of the use of synthetic drugs
- Analyzing the causes of expansion of drug use

#### **METHODS**

The research method is a survey and questionnaire was used to collect the required information. The statistical population clients rehab centers and drug rehabilitation camps of welfare organization in Ardabil Province and sampling was done randomly. The participants were people who have dependence on methamphetamine and at least two weeks have passed from their hospital stay and physical symptoms were left behind and they were willing to be interviewed and were able to express the experiences of everyday life.

# Research hypothesis

- 1- There is a significant relationship between friendship and changing patterns of drug use.
- 2- There is a significant relationship between drug diversion and changing patterns of drug use.
- 3- There is a significant relationship between religious beliefs and changing patterns of drug use.

#### First hypothesis

There is a significant relationship between friendship and changing patterns of drug use.

Table 1: The relationship between friendship and changing patterns of drug use

Variable Statistical index	Frequency	Pearson correlation coefficient	The significance level
friendship and changing drug patterns	120	0.312	0.006

According to data analysis there is a significant relationship between friendship and changing patterns of drug use. Therefore, this hypothesis is confirmed. The likelihood of addiction in people who have addicted friends several times is more than others. According to research and interviews with consumers of synthetic drugs, most of them have begun addiction in their friend's home. Thus we should be careful about our children friends. Maybe one day they offer drug to our children. Do we have thought about to avoid the impact? Is he aware of the effects and harms of substance? If we do not give correct answers about drugs and psychotropic substances to our children questions, they will learn wrong answers from their friends. If in rehab centers we are facing with synthetic drug addicts, it has been proposed to invite addicts who quit smoking synthetic drugs or are recovering to come and provide the necessary training to these people as they face the most influential educational, and transfer their experiences in friendly and informal meeting to other addicts. Because they can easily meet with addicts and points out their mistakes. By using this method a significant percentage of the changing drug consumption pattern towards hazardous materials was reduced.



#### Second hypothesis

There is a significant relationship between drug diversion and changing patterns of drug use. Drug diversion and changing patterns of drug use

Table 2: The relationship between drug diversion and changing patterns of drug use

Variable Statistical index	Frequency	Pearson correlation coefficient	The significance level
Drug diversion and changing patterns of drug use	120	0.500	0.000

According to data analysis there is a significant relationship between drug diversion and changing patterns of drug use. Therefore, this hypothesis is confirmed. A variety of synthetic drugs is growing rapidly as far as families and schools and provincial education authorities are not familiar with new synthetic drugs and students without complete information will be drawn to these materials. Now a massive community campaign against false and misleading advertising on different networks and satellite channels where police and relevant agencies should attempt to be dominant on these ads and introduce the nature of such material to community to induce the message of hatred toward drugs in the minds of the community and strongly and decisively fight the those who promote and profit from synthetic drugs and drug addiction.

#### Third hypothesis

There is a significant relationship between religious beliefs and changing patterns of drug use. Religious beliefs and changing patterns of drug use.

Table 3: The relationship between religious beliefs and changing patterns of drug use

Variable Statistical index	Frequency	Pearson correlation coefficient	The significance level
Religious beliefs and changing patterns of drug use	120	-0.39	0.599

According to data analysis there is a significant relationship between religious beliefs and changing patterns of drug use. Therefore, this hypothesis is rejected. Addiction in religious family is much less than others. The findings show that religious young people less than others are caught in the trap of addiction. Surely those who accept religious principles and have sense of coherence to it are less than people who are not religious use drugs. Given that the respondents in terms of religious beliefs, such as participating in the ceremony of months (Muharram and Ramadan) was not serious on their duties, and even in these days the synthetic drugs are underused, therefore it is recommended to use religious symbols and religious reference groups, scientific, literary, artistic, sports and cinema are used for addicts modeling. Religious member of society should be invited to address the issue of prevention of addiction in the organs, agencies, and universities and schools.

### CONCLUSION

The results show that from the four hypotheses proposed three hypotheses have been confirmed and one was rejected. Of these three; the positive and significant relationship of friendship and drug diversion can be mentioned. The one that was rejected is the negative and not significant relationship between religious beliefs can be mentioned.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST** 

None

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FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None



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