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Problem Gambling and its Impact on Families: A Literature Review

Ruth Grant Kalischuk, Nadine Nowatzki, Kelly Cardwell, Kurt Klein & Jason Solowoniuk

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Abstract

This paper offers an overview of the existing literature concerning problem gambling and families and identifies gaps in current research knowledge on this topic. Relevant theoretical perspectives are outlined and the role of familial factors in the development of problem gambling is discussed. This is followed by a focused review of the effects of problem gambling on family members, specifically the spouse, children and parents. Available treatments and therapies for family members are also reviewed. The paper concludes by identifying the limitations of existing knowledge and some directions for future research on this topic.

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