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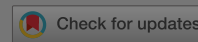► Volume 7, Issue 1 ► Empirical examination of a Venn diagram ....

Original Articles

Empirical examination of a Venn diagram heuristic for understanding the relationship between addiction, psychiatric comorbidity and trauma

Julio I. Rojas ✉, Michael Brand & Ji Li

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Abstract

Addiction ... and associat... framework for unde... clinicians and pati... ualize the relati... 2012). A Venn... Mental Health a... 712050]). We were... iatric illness and trau... ed in our outpatie... empirically examine... esults from the Pers... mine the degree to which addiction, psychiatric illness and trauma contributed to global distress.

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Using the PAI-Alcohol and PAI-Drug Scales to represent addiction, the PAI-Depression and Anxiety Scales to represent psychiatric illness, the PAI-Anxiety-related Disorder–Traumatic Stress subscale to represent trauma and the PAI-Stress scale as an indicator global distress, we were able to determine that approximately 40% of the variance in global distress can be explained by addiction, psychiatric illness and trauma. However, most of the 40% is accounted for by the shared relationship between psychiatric illness and trauma (18%), and psychiatric illness (12%). Implications for diagnosis and treatment are proposed.

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