INTENT, BEHAVIORAL CONTROL AND DRUG USE IN ADOLESCENTS

DCE. Ahumada-Cortez, Jesica Guadalupe, Dr. Guzmán-Facundo, Francisco Rafael, Dra. López-García, Karla Selene, Dra. Alonso-Castillo, María Magdalena, DCE. Gámez-Medina, Mario Enrique, DCE. Valdez-Montero, Carolina

Introduction

The drug phenomenon has become one of the issues of greatest concern in Mexico for its sustained growth and reported in the last three national household surveys (2002, 2008 and 2011) in individuals of all ages, especially teenagers. The health consequences of drug abuse are increasingly complex and severe. The inability to withstand adolescent drug use when faced with social pressures that facilitate consumption is called behavioral control, a concept that has proven to be a predictor of the behavior. A theory that helps in the understanding of health promoting behaviors and / or protective avoidance and risk limitation is the theory of Nola J. Pender. OBJECTIVES: To verify the relationship of behavioral control over drug use among adolescents in school, under the hypothesis: Teenagers who have consumed any drugs show significantly higher scores on behavioral control than those who have not consumed.

Material and methods:

Study Design: Descriptive correlational study in 443 adolescents in the metropolitan area of Monterrey, NL. Instrument: The Adolescent Survey instrument for Drug Control and Behavioral applied (Rodríguez, et al 2007), with acceptable reliability of a = 0.95. Data analysis: Descriptive statistics is used by frequencies and proportions, point estimates 95% and non-parametric statistical inference. The characteristics of the sample were female that occupies the highest percentage (51.2%), just over 90% of the participants are between 15 and 16 years, compared to 58.7% grade they are in 1st semester, and 10.4% have a job.

Results and conclusions:

With these results the hypothesis mentioned is accepted: teenagers who have intentions of drug displayed significantly lower behavioral control that they do not intend to consume.

Behavioral control showed significantly effect ($\beta = .228$, $p < .001$) regarding the intention, with an explained variance of 34%. In Figure 1. The effect of behavioral control is shown graphically on the intention.

Behavioral control showed significantly effect ($\beta = .081$, $p < .001$) on drug use with an explained variance of 27%. In Figure 2. The effect of behavioral control is shown graphically on drug use.

With these results the hypothesis mentioned is accepted: there effect of behavioral intention and control over drug use in adolescents.