

Presentation

University Luis Amigó Foundation is pleased to introduce the first volume of its journal, *Drugs and Addictive Behavior*, developed in line with our institutional mission, which aims for the creation, preservation and dissemination of scientific knowledge, while also seeking to train professionals in critical awareness. The journal addresses the issue of addictions, from their promotion, prevention and treatment, thereby contributing to the integral development of society.

The articles contained in the journal are unpublished productions of the authors and have successfully passed a thorough process of selection and peer review by experts in different areas.

In Volume 1, No. 1, of *Drugs and Addictive Behavior* you will find an editorial piece, written by Dr. Guillermo Alonso Castaño Pérez, which recounts the objectives of the Luis Amigo University Foundation in disseminate a scientific journal on the subject of addictions, not only for Colombia and the region, but to be positioned in other countries. In this regard, five research papers, from the national and international levels, are presented; the first of them, based on research undertaken by psychologists of the Universidad Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado de Venezuela, aims to determine the influence of psychoactive substance dependence on personality disorders and the onset of frontal symptomatology, thereby, relating the results of these three variables. This article concludes by arguing that substance use disorders contribute to the development of personality disorders and cause damage to the frontal lobe of users.

The second study, led by José Alonso Andrade Salazar and Dayanne Alexis Torres Rojas, is a state of the art of the research that has been done in the coffee belt of Colombia, on the use of psychoactive substances, highlighting the main characteristics on which the studies have focused on issues such as family, social configurations, profiles, characterization and factors associated with the incidence of this phenomenon.

The third study is a presentation of the motivations of educators to manage projects on violence and drug use in primary school students. The authors are Ornella Moreno Mattar, Ana Cristina Jaramillo and Isabel Cristina Posada, members of the mental health group of the School of Public Health at the *Universidad de Antioquia*. Their article presents the experience of training teachers so that they can create preventive projects centered on the issues of violence and substance use, recognizing the positive and negative factors of the training process.

The fourth research article of this volume is the work of Natalia Neira Loaiza and Felipe Ernesto Parrado, from the *Universidad Católica de Pereira*, which focuses on factors related to the persistence of smoking in university students. The authors show that activities associated with university life might promote cigarette consumption and enhance possible dependence.

The fifth paper, written by Maria Gabriela Richard, presents the GPS Network Program, developed in Córdoba, Argentina which describes the therapeutic approach to addiction that takes place with young people, showing motivational and relational aspects that are fundamental in the intervention with this population.

To complete this issue, two theory-based, review articles and a reflection article are presented. The first, written by Ms Alberto Andrés Restrepo Alzate, offers a reflection on the way of life on the street, focusing on exclusion as being a factor that enhances the chances of living on the street, as well as looking at the social representations that are interwoven with the people who, for various reasons, live on the street.

The second review is carried out by the Master of Psychology, Lizzy Alpizar Jimenez, of La Salle University in Costa Rica, who presents an analysis of the home environment and how it can be seen as either a risk or a protective factor in the development of addictive behaviors.

Finally, Marcelo de Leonardis, from the University of Buenos Aires, reflects on drug use in Argentina at the end of the century and the millennium, from a psychological social position, which seeks to understand usage patterns and behaviors, especially in young people.

Given the diversity of topics in the area of addictions, this first edition of the journal is of most interest to readers.

Mg. Sandra Milena Restrepo Escobar

Director / Editor