

factors. The prevailing etiologic theories of FND are psychosocial and still strongly dominated by the Freudian concept of conversion – a psychological symptom is converted into a somatic symptom as a way of dealing with the distress of the symptom. However, physiologic studies with fMRI are necessary to understand the neurological mechanisms involved in FND symptoms. Convergent neuroimaging findings have implicated abnormal limbic-motor interactions in response to emotional stimuli in FND patients, demonstrated a possible role of the limbic system (LS) in FND neurophysiology.

**Objectives:** Understand the role of LS in the neurophysiologic mechanisms involve in FND.

**Methods:** Systematic review of the literature published in PubMed, using the terms “**Functional Neurological Disorders**”, “**Limbic System**”, “**Emotions**”.

**Results:** Physiologic studies of functional weakness and sensory loss reveal normal functioning of primary motor and sensory cortex, but abnormalities of premotor cortex and association cortices. This suggests a top-down influence creating the dysfunction during the action control. Indeed, fMRI studies with FND motor patients show a hypoactivation of cortical and subcortical motor pathways, and a hyperactivity in limbic areas related with an abnormal limbic regulation with increased amygdala activity. In fact, studies have found a dysfunction in the medial prefrontal areas in FND patients suggesting that they might have an abnormal affective representation (AR) of self-relevant information encoded in this region, which can later induce specific behavioral patterns of thought interaction with sensorimotor circuits. The abnormal AR could be influenced by a dysfunction in LS regulation. Indeed, emotions are one of the major factors influencing movement choice. Moreover, limbic structures, such as the amygdala, can be influenced by genetic factors and/or early life stress. Thus, abnormal functioning of LS could lead to functional disorders by deranged top-down control.

**Conclusions:** In conclusion, FND patients may have an abnormal AR and/or emotion regulation mechanisms possibly due to prior experience or partly genetically determined which interact with lower-order functions leading to the production of the functional symptoms, where LS have an important role. However, much further empiric research is needed to better understand this fascinating and debilitating condition, as well as to derive new perspectives for more efficient therapeutic interventions in these patients.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

## Addictive Disorders

### EPP0624

#### Relationship between the practice of chemsex and taking PrEP

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**Introduction:** Chemsex refers to the use of drugs, typically stimulants and/or psychoactive substances, in a sexual context, often in

the context of casual or group sex encounters. Currently, the practice of chemsex focuses on men who have sex with men (MSM). On the other hand, Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a biomedical method that has proven effective in preventing HIV transmission, particularly among individuals at a heightened risk, including those who engage in chemsex. MSM account for two thirds of new HIV cases in the US. It is estimated that in 70% of cases seroconversion occurs through “condomless anal sex” (CAS). According to the CDC, one in six MSM will be infected with HIV during their lifetime. The consumption of methamphetamine (MA) has been identified as the main driver of the practice of CAS, alteration of rectal immunological function and faster seroconversion. One in three new HIV infections have been associated with MA consumption. (Groves *et al.* JAIDS 2020; 85 272-279).

**Objectives:** The primary goal of this study is to describe the prevalence of chemsex engagement among PrEP users, delineate user characteristics and requirements, gain deeper insights into this phenomenon within the Barcelona region, and formulate customized strategies accordingly.

**Methods:** This study conducts a literature review to explore the current correlation between engaging in chemsex and the utilization of PrEP. We identified research articles published between January 2020 and December 2022, that discussed the utilization of chemsex drugs prior to or during sexual activities. The findings were synthesised using a narrative approach and conceptualised using a behavioural analysis framework.

**Results:** According to a recent cross-sectional study performed at Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, SUD among patients who are being followed-up in the outpatient clinic of PrEP was higher (89%) compared with other European regions such as England (38.5%) or Amsterdam (41%). Moreover, according to data collected in the EMIS 2017 survey, Barcelona is the city with the highest prevalence of chemsex in Spain. (De La Mora L *et al.* AIDS Beh. 2022; 26: 4055-4062).

**Conclusions:** The frequency of chemsex practice among individuals using PrEP in Barcelona surpasses what has been observed in other groups. Nearly 25% of the participants express worries and a requirement for assistance regarding the management of drug use, matters associated with their sexuality, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). MSM who suffers from substance use disorder may experience difficulty achieving effective daily oral PrEP adherence prevention levels that may serve as early indicators of increased risk of disengagement from PrEP care and discontinuation of the PrEP. These results highlight the importance of adopting an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates education about substances and the implementation of risk mitigation strategies within the context of riskier sexual behaviors.

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### EPP0625

#### Reasons for Individuals not Enrolling for Yoga trial in Addiction

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