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CORRELATES AND PREVALENCE OF SUBSTANCE USE AMONG PRIMARY CARE PATIENT IN IKORODU, NIGERIA

A. Erinfolemi¹, A. Olagunju¹, A. Oguntuase², A. Akinbode¹

¹Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine of University of Lagos, ²Lagos State Health Management Board, General Hospital Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria

Quality of life and sociodemographic factors of patients with unexplained symptom in general practice.

Objectives: We aimed to evaluate the correlates and prevalence of psychoactive substance use in primary care patients in Ikorodu, Lagos Nigeria.

Method: Six Primary Health Care clinics were randomly selected of the public health clinic in Ikorodu area of Lagos. A total of 1,550 were screened with World Health Organization Alcohol, Smoking and substance involvement screening test (ASSIST) between June 2007, and May 2008.

Results: Hazardous use of tobacco was most prevalent (30%) especially among 18 - 25 age group, follow by Alcohol and then cannabis. Hazardous use of alcohol was associated with male gender, younger age group and lack of employment. For all substances, we recorded lowest rate for women.

Conclusion: Psychoactive substance use are common among primary care patients, effective methods of early identification and form of anti drug use education are needed. Younger age groups, especially men are to receive more attention.