The European and independent PSUD trainees survey

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Introduction: Although psychoactive substance use disorders (PSUD) belong to the domain of mental health, their management varies greatly among European countries. Furthermore, both the role of psychiatrists and trainees in the treatment of PSUD is not the same for each European country.

Objectives: Among the context of the European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT), the PSUD Working Group has developed a survey to carry out in year 2016, at the aim of gathering information about the training in PSUD in Europe, both from Child and Adolescent, and General Adult Psychiatric (CAP and GAP) trainees. The survey will investigate, at European level, the organisation of the PSUD training, trainees satisfaction, attitudes towards people who use psychoactive substances, management of pharmacologic and involvement in common clinical situations.

Methods: A 70-items questionnaire regarding the aforementioned objectives has been developed, and will be shared trough an online data-collecting system among European CAP and GAP trainees, with 40 trainees per country filling the survey in at least 30 countries (sample expected population of 1200). One national coordinator per country will facilitate the delivering of the survey. Twent-five national coordinators were enrolled so far.

Discussion and Conclusion: It is still needed to reach coordinators from other 5 European countries to fulfil the above criteria and start the study. This survey will be the first to explore European psychiatric trainees attitudes and practices about PSUD. Findings from this independent survey may serve in understanding the needs of trainees in the field of substance misuse psychiatry.