



ISSN NO. 2320-5407

ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56797

Title: Factors Leading to Relapse in Substance Use Disorder Patients - A Cross-Sectional Study

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- ✓ Accept after minor revision.....**
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr S. K. Nath

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths of the Study

- The study addresses an important public health issue related to relapse in substance use disorder, which remains a significant challenge in addiction management.
- The research utilizes a clearly defined cross-sectional design to assess factors associated with relapse, contributing valuable data from the Indian context.
- The sample size is appropriately estimated based on prior prevalence data, ensuring sufficient statistical power.
- The variables assessed encompass a comprehensive set of sociodemographic and clinical factors, providing a multidimensional understanding of relapse determinants.
- The statistical analysis includes relevant tests (Chi-square, Fisher's Exact) with clear criteria for significance, enhancing the credibility of findings.

Weaknesses of the Study

- The sample is limited to inpatients from a single tertiary care hospital, which may reduce generalizability to broader populations, including outpatient and community settings.
- The study's cross-sectional nature precludes establishing causality between identified risk factors and relapse.
- It is unclear whether the study received ethical approval; there is no mention of ethical clearance, informed consent procedures, or approval authority.
- The description of methodology lacks details on how variables such as craving severity, treatment adherence, and exposure to triggers were assessed—validated scales or instruments are not specified.
- The relatively small sample size (n=100) may limit the detection of less common but relevant factors or differences.
- There is minimal discussion of potential confounders or biases that could influence the observed associations.
- The language and presentation could benefit from clearer grammar, sentence structure, and formatting refinement.

Reviewer Comments

- The title accurately reflects the content but would be more precise if it specified that it is a study on relapsed patients, e.g., "Factors Leading to Relapse in Patients with Substance Use Disorder: A Cross-Sectional Study."

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- The abstract provides a concise overview but could improve clarity by explicitly stating the study design, setting, and comprehensive key findings.
- The introduction sufficiently contextualizes the importance of studying relapse but can be enhanced with more recent references and explicit mention of the study's unique contribution.
- The objectives are clear; however, framing them within the broader context of relapse prevention strategies would strengthen the rationale.
- Methodology section covers key points; however, details regarding assessment tools, ethical considerations, and the validation process for data collection instruments should be added.
- The statistical analysis approach is appropriate but lacks mention of how potential confounding variables were managed.
- Results are presented clearly, with significant associations properly highlighted. Nonetheless, including confidence intervals and effect sizes would enhance interpretability.
- The discussion appropriately emphasizes the importance of psychosocial factors but could better integrate findings with existing literature.
- The conclusion summarizes key points but should also acknowledge study limitations and suggest specific future research directions.
- Ethical approval is not mentioned; it is crucial to state whether ethical clearance was obtained, from which authority, and whether informed consent was obtained.
- The manuscript would benefit from thorough language editing to correct grammatical and typographical errors and improve clarity.
- Tables and figures are minimal; incorporating summarized data in tables and possibly flowcharts would improve presentation.
- References are relevant but could be expanded to include recent studies on relapse predictors and intervention strategies.