

From the Editor's Desk

Research in addiction psychology in India is evolving to address the country's unique socio-cultural dynamics, aiming to dispel prevalent myths and biases. Recent research emphasizes the impact of substance use on marginalized groups, including women and adolescents. For instance, studies have attempted to understand the influences on youth encouraging substance use and the experiences of mental health challenges following dependence. The current issue explores key trends and areas of focus in recent research that directly addresses the misconceptions surrounding behaviours leading to, maintaining and challenging substance use such as the loneliness paradox affecting behavioural addiction. Current research trends in substance use and addiction are increasingly focused on understanding and reducing systemic biases, often using interdisciplinary approaches, such as the legal perspectives in marital conflict for individuals with dependence disorder or understanding the neurobiology of substance use that reinforces the model of addiction as a chronic, relapsing brain disorder that alters regions in the brain involved in impulse control, decision-making, and experiences of reward. There is growing interest on the intersection of substance use, PTSD, domestic violence, and caregiving roles. Research is being used to suggest perspectives in public health messaging, and continuing education to reflect updated models of addiction.

Editors

Journal of Addiction and Mental Health