

EFFECTIVENESS OF DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAM ON ALCOHOL USE AND DRUNKENNESS AMONG SCHOOLCHILDREN

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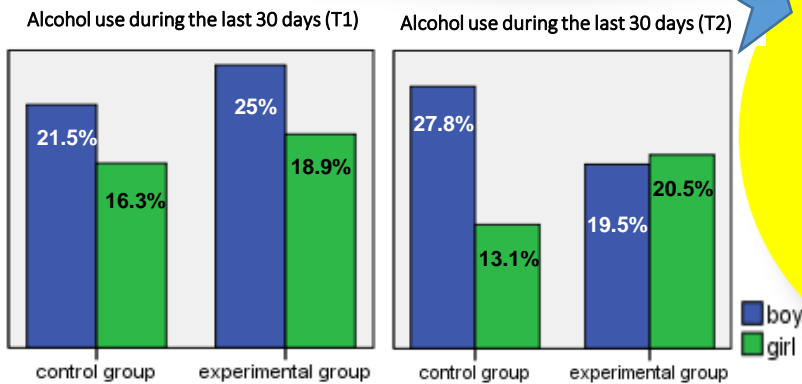
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Introduction

Previous studies verifying the effectiveness of the Unplugged programme point to the gender differences of the programme in relation to substance use (Gabrhelik et al., 2012; Vigna-Taglianti et al., 2009). Smoking seems to be a part of the daily life of many young people (Kraus & Nociar, 2016), therefore smoking is a significant predictor of subsequent development of lifetime alcohol abuse and dependence (Riala et al., 2004; Grucza 2006).

Figure 1 Moderation effect of gender



Objective

To examine the effectiveness of Unplugged on:

- lifetime prevalence of drunkenness
- alcohol use during the last 30 days.

To examine the moderation effect of gender in these relationships.

Results

- **Participation in Unplugged program** was positively associated with the prevalence of alcohol use during the last 30 days. Schoolchildren in experimental group had lower probability of alcohol use comparing to control group (Table 1).
- **The moderation effect of gender** showed that the program had an effect on alcohol consumption in boys. After completing the Unplugged, alcohol consumption in boys decreased significantly, while girls remained almost at the same level as before the Unplugged (Table 1, Figure 1).
- **Smoking** was reported in those schoolchildren who reported drunkenness and alcohol use (Table 1,2).

Methods

Unplugged (www.eudap.net)

- School-based universal drug use prevention program for 12-14 year old schoolchildren
- Program implementation at 12 Slovak elementary schools in the school year 2017/2018

Research sample

- 486 schoolchildren (277 in experimental group (EG); 209 in control group (CG))
- Mean age=13.05; 49.6% boys
- Data collection before the program implementation and immediately after the implementation

Measures

- Alcohol use/Smoking during the last 30 days: *How frequently have you smoked cigarettes during the last 30 days?*
 - Lifetime prevalence of drunkenness/smoking: *Have you ever smoked cigarettes? How many times did you get drunk by drinking alcoholic beverages?*
- The items were dichotomized:
0=not once; 1=at least once

Data analysis

- Binary logistic regression and adjusted for gender and baseline risk behaviour

Table 1 Regression model for alcohol use during the last 30 days

	B	p	OR	95% C.I	
Alcohol T1	1.899	<0.001	6.677	3.978	11.206
Gender	-0.883	0.026	0.413	0.190	0.899
Group	-0.690	0.048	0.501	0.253	0.993
Smoking T2	1.134	0.017	3.109	1.226	7.885
Group x Gender	1.170	0.025	3.222	1.158	8.962

Reference group= control group; Smoking= smoking during the last 30 days; The whole regression model explained 22% of the variance and correctly classified 80.5% of cases.

Table 2 Regression model for lifetime prevalence of drunkenness

	B	p	OR	95% C.I	
Drunkenness T1	2.290	<0.001	9.877	3.388	28.798
Gender	-0.156	0.672	0.856	0.416	1.760
Group	-0.388	0.293	0.679	0.329	1.397
Smoking T2	1.970	<0.001	6.735	3.210	14.132

Reference group= control group; Smoking= lifetime prevalence of smoking; The whole regression model explained 25% of the variance and correctly classified 92.3% of cases.

Conclusion

The findings confirmed that Unplugged reduced alcohol use among boys. It has been also shown that smoking is a significant predictor of alcohol use and drunkenness.

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