

Relation between food addiction and nutritional status in patients candidates for bariatric surgery

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Abstract

Cocaine craving represents an important predictive factor for relapse and treatment failure among cocaine-addicted patients, with several health, social and economic consequences [1]. In clinical practice, craving primarily relies on a self-reported assessment. Thus, it may be useful to investigate biological markers of craving for the development of novel pharmacological approaches to cocaine use disorder. In literature, an overlap between neurobiological pathways involved in reward, cocaine-seeking behaviours and food intake has been proved [2]. Furthermore, key brain regions like nucleus accumbens and the striatum regulate reward processing related to both food and cocaine [3]. Leptin, a 167 amino acid peptide secreted by white adipocytes that plays an important role in the regulation of food intake and energy balance, may be a feeding-related neuroendocrine mediator involved in cocaine addiction.

Keywords: Nutrition; Food addiction; Surgery