Medicina do Adolescente | Casuística / Investigação

CO-032 - (21SPP-11310) - PROFILES ON ADOLESCENT INTERNET ADDICTION: A TAXONOMY WITH LATENT PROFILING ANALYSIS

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Introdução e Objectivos
Adolescents over-involved on the Internet have been linked to a range of negative psychosocial development, but more accurate and detailed information about participants' internet addiction profiles is warranted. So, we aimed to identify Internet Addiction (IA) profiles in adolescents based on psychometric properties from Young's Internet Addiction Test (IAT) and to assess associations between the profiles and personal and social behaviours.
Metodologia

A cross-sectional study was performed at public schools within a Portuguese region, using a survey that included sociodemographic and emotional well-being data and the Portuguese version of IAT. We performed a Latent Profile Analysis (LPA) to identify teens' profiles based on the six IAT dimensions.

Resultados

In the 1915 eligible responses, participants' mean age was 15 years (SD=1.82), 53% were females. IA's prevalence was 16.5%. Four models were estimated with LPA. Analysis of the models by fit statistics, Integrated Completed Likelihood and Lo-Mendell-Rubin likelihood ratio test, showed that the better solution was the model with four profiles: Profile 1 – Worrisome lack of control users, Profile 2 – Balanced users, Profile 3 – Worrisome anticipation users, Profile 4 – Problematic users. Of note was the association of male gender, low parental control, and hardship in befriending with Profile 4, whereas female predominance and highest parental control rate were featured in Profile 2.

Conclusões
This study's results are an important step in characterizing different patterns in adolescents' characteristics and behaviors related to internet addiction and raising preventative awareness to decrease IA, focusing on male gender and lack of parental control.

Palavras-chave : Internet addiction, adolescents, latent profile analysis