of early relationships with significant others, Constructive Thinking Index (CTI), Questions about the propensity for risky behavior (answers on a Likert scale) were used. Subgroups were compared using analysis of variance in SPSS.

Table 1. Comparison of subgroups without and with alcohol consumption

	No alcohol consumption (N=24)	Alcohol consumption (N=53)	Sig.
SCL–90R GSI Global Severity Index	1,112±0,585	1,602±0,653	,002
SCL–90R PSI Positive Symptom Total	45,750±17,718	59,415±18,170	,003
ISTA Destructive Aggression	55,283±8,809	62,174±9,755	,004
ISTA Destructive Anxiety/ Fear	68,965±11,990	75,521±12,600	,036
ISTA Destructive Outer ego demarcation	55,343±14,897	63,483±12,071	,013
ISTA Destructive Inner ego demarcation	53,717±8,694	62,886±9,249	,000
CDS _ASR	10,813±8,773	16,250±8,851	,039
CTI _Categorical Thinking	34,606±6,932	41,155±10,008	,001

Results: The results showed that the group 'Alcohol consumption' had higher scores on the SCL-90R scales, dissociative phenomenology (CDS), categorical thinking (*CTI*), high level of destructive internal and external ego demarcation (ISTA) (see Tabl.). The 'Alcohol consumption' group also has a higher level of risk-taking behaviour (20% in the no-alcohol group versus 50% in the alcohol group).
Conclusions: Alcohol consumption in mental illnesses is associated with higher rates of psychopathological symptoms, categorical thinking, and a tendency to risky behaviour. The data obtained suggest that a significant role is played by EGO- integration disturbance (rigid boundaries, destructive fear, pathological narcissism, destructive aggression), which are associated with higher rates of the alcohol consumption. Alcohol can be considered as a vulnerability factor for mental disorder, and alcohol can be used as an unproductive coping strategy in cases of severe psychological distress.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV024

Burden of substance use and correlates among engineering students

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Introduction: The use of tobacco and other substances remains a major public health concern affecting all age groups and generations. Young adulthood represents a peak period for the emergence of such behavioral problems, particularly among university students, including those in engineering.
Objectives: This study aimed to explore the prevalence of substance use among engineering students (ES) in Sfax, Southern Tunisia and its associated factors.
Methods: It was a cross-sectional study conducted during the 2024-2025 academic year among ES of all levels. It was conducted in Sfax, South of Tunisia by using the stratified random sampling method. Data collection was performed using an anonymous self-administered questionnaire.
Results: Overall, 302 ES were enrolled in the study. The median age was 23 years with an interquartile range (IQR)= [21-24 years]. There were 148 females (60.9%), giving a male to female ratio of 0.64. History of chronic disease was noted in 41 ES (13.6%). There were 33 ES (10.9%) having low monthly income and 53 ES (17.5%) lived in rural areas. Academic failure during the last year was noted among 38 ES (12.6 %). As for lifestyle behaviours, a total of 61 ES (14.9%) practised physical activity and 261 ES (86.4%) had leisure activities.
Prevalence of tobacco use, alcohol consumption and illicit drug use among ES were 23.5% (n=71), 16.2% (n=49) and 4.6% (n=14), respectively.
Prevalence of tobacco use was statistically associated with male gender (OR=3.407; p=<0.001), living in rural areas (OR =1.280; p=<0.001) and academic failure (OR=1.256; p=<0.001). In addition, it was statistically associated with alcohol consumption (OR =2.496; p=<0.001) and illicit drug use (OR =1.219; p=<0.001). Besides, having a leisure activity was statistically associated with lower prevalence of tobacco use among ES (OR=0.87; p=0.029).
Conclusions: A noteworthy finding was the high prevalence of both tobacco use and co-addictions among engineering students, with lifestyle behaviors and socioeconomic status identified as key predictors. These results emphasize the importance of implementing monitoring and support programs to address existing addictions and prevent the initiation of new substance use.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV025

Magnitude of academic failure and its associated factors among university students

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Introduction: Students are expected to spend much of their time on their education and need to graduate with good academic results. Thus, academic failure is one of the most serious problems faced by a university student (US).
Objectives: This study aimed to explore the prevalence of academic failure among US and its associated factors.
Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted among university students at Sfax University, located in southern Tunisia, during the