

Gambling Disorders in Treatment from the Perspective of the Inventory of Personality Styles and Disorders



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BACKGROUND: The inpatient treatment of pathological gambling is specific in many ways. The complications include the lack of motivation or insight and psychological comorbidity, involving especially personality disorders.

AIMS: To describe the personality profile of a sample of pathological gamblers in treatment using the PSSI Inventory and to compare it with population norms, as well as analysing the basic relationships between the PSSI scales, attachment styles, and other variables in the sample of pathological gamblers. **SAMPLE:** The sample consisted of 147 men (mean age = 34.6 years) hospitalised for pathological gambling in the psychiatric hospitals in Bohnice, Kroměříž, and Opava. 144 inventories were able to be used

for the analysis. **METHODS:** Data was collected using the PSSI clinical personality inventory, SOGS, and ECR questionnaires and a structured interview. **RESULTS:** The scores of all the PSSI scales are, on average, at least 1SD higher than the norm. A weak correlation was found between the “schizotypal”, “borderline”, and “narcissistic” PSSI scales and the SOGS score. A relationship between the attachment style and PSSI was found. A relationship was also found between the PSSI scores and suicidal thoughts, repeated treatment, and other drug use. **CONCLUSIONS:** In comparison with the normal population, the sample exhibits a higher occurrence of various risk factors, psychiatric comorbidity, and other problematic behaviour.

KEY WORDS: INPATIENT TREATMENT – GAMBLING DISORDER – ATTACHMENT STYLE – PSSI

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