



## Sexual Differences in Addictions and Dual Disorders: Importance in Gender Perspective

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear colleagues,

Basic, preclinical and clinical research has shown the presence of biological differences between the sexes from the beginning of embryonic development and throughout the entire lifecycle. This dimorphism affects health, protective or vulnerability factors, social and relational life, the search for treatment, and responses to therapeutic interventions. However, studies of addiction and dual diagnosis continue to be carried out mainly in male patients. This prevents obtaining knowledge on the specific characteristics and needs of women. A first step to improve this knowledge is to update the sex and gender differences found in research into addiction and dual disorders.

We encourage original research and review articles about sex and gender differences in addiction and dual disorders: preclinical and clinical models; genetic background; neurobiological, psychological, and social mechanisms; vulnerability factors; biomarkers; social and developmental factors; diagnosis and diagnostic instruments; clinical presentation; response to existing pharmacological and psychological therapies; unmet research, diagnosis and treatment needs; and gender perspectives.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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