

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Brennan Martin

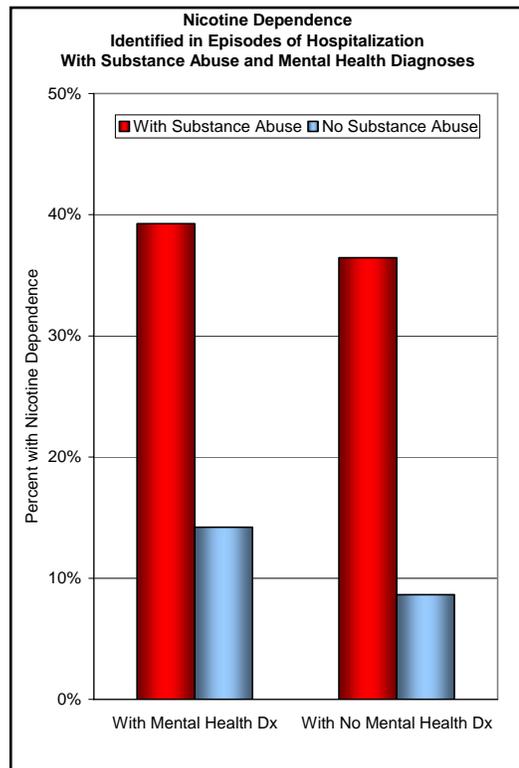
DATE: June 29, 2007

RE: Nicotine Dependence and Co-occurring MH/SA Diagnoses

This brief report is the second in a series that focuses on nicotine dependence among adults with mental health diagnoses. The first report, distributed in 2006, focused on the prevalence of nicotine dependence among adults with mental health diagnoses in Vermont (<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2006/pip020306.pdf>). In addition, an overview of the prevalence of co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders in inpatient settings was provided in a PIP report distributed in January of 2007 (<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2007/Pip011207.pdf>). The current report focuses on the incidence of nicotine dependence among adults with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse diagnoses in inpatient settings, as compared to individuals with mental health but no substance abuse diagnoses in the same settings. This analysis was conducted in response to a request from Paul Dragon, Director of Vermont's Integrated Services Initiative.

This brief report focuses on the 49,673 episodes of inpatient care of adult Vermont residents in general hospitals in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and neighboring counties of New York State during CY2005. Diagnostic and demographic information about these individuals was obtained from an anonymous extract from the Hospital Discharge Data Set maintained by the Vermont Department of Health.

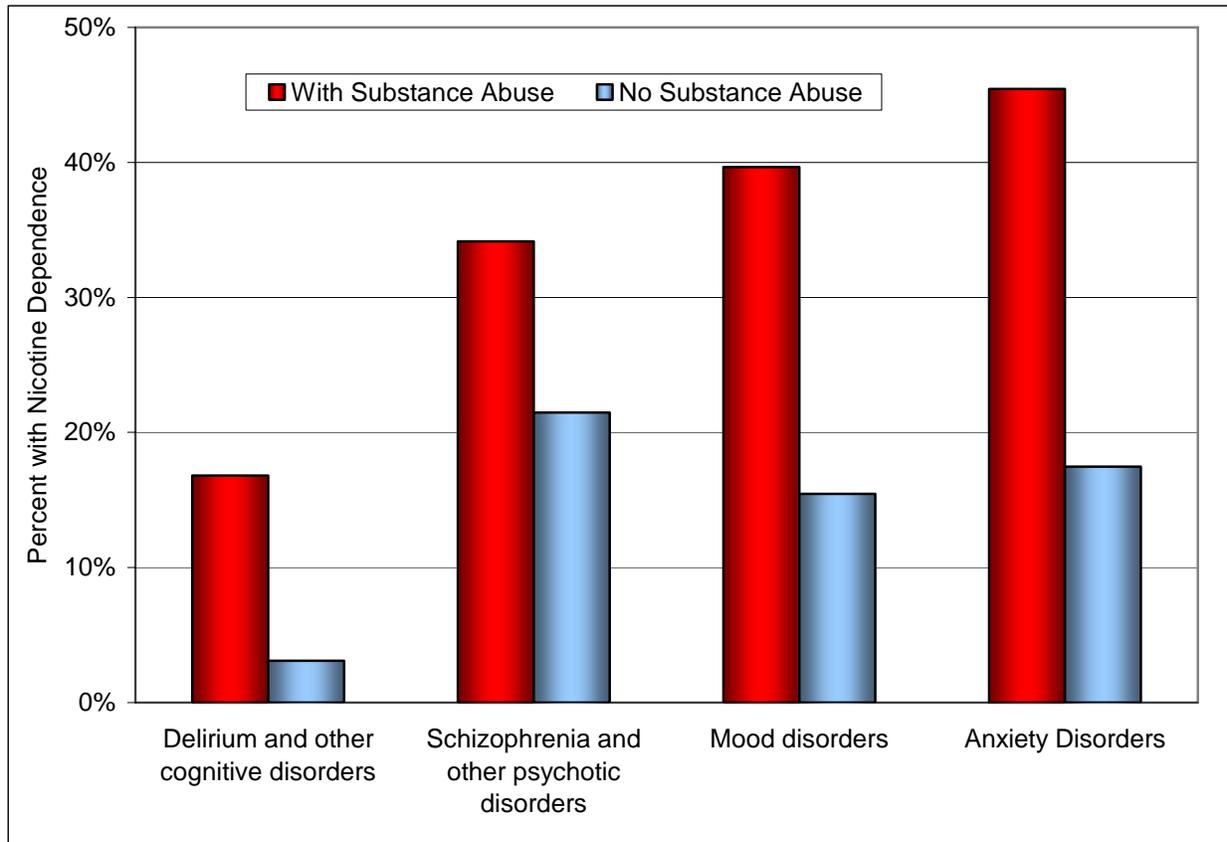
Nicotine dependence was identified by a DSM IV code of 305.10 in any one of 20 possible diagnoses associated with each inpatient episode of care. Nicotine dependence rates were determined for all episodes of care, for all episodes with a mental health diagnosis, for all episodes of care with a diagnosis in each of 4 broad mental health diagnostic categories, and for individuals with and without a co-occurring substance abuse diagnosis in each of these groups.



Findings indicate that nicotine dependence rates were substantially higher for individuals with a substance abuse diagnosis than for those without in both the mental health population (39% vs. 14%) and the non-mental health population (36% vs. 9%). Nicotine dependence was also higher for individuals with a substance abuse diagnosis than for individuals without a substance abuse diagnosis in each of the four broad mental health diagnosis categories examined. Among those with co-occurring substance abuse disorders, the highest nicotine dependence rate was among individuals with anxiety disorders (45%). Among those with no co-occurring substance abuse disorders, the highest nicotine dependence rate was among individuals with schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders (21%).

We look forward to your comments, your interpretation, and your suggestions for further analyses of nicotine dependence and mental health in Vermont. As always, you can reach us by e-mail at pip@vdh.state.vt.us or by phone at 802-863-7249.

**Nicotine Dependence
Identified in Episodes of Hospitalization
With Substance Abuse and Mental Health Diagnoses**



	Substance Abuse			
	Yes		No	
	#	%	#	%
Delirium and other cognitive disorders	18	17%	69	3%
Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders	69	34%	191	21%
Mood disorders	613	40%	818	15%
Anxiety Disorders	330	45%	374	17%
With Mental Health Dx	857	39%	1,371	14%
With No Mental Health Dx	588	36%	3,133	9%

Vermont utilization rates are based on analysis of the 2005 Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set maintained by the Vermont Department of Health. This analysis includes all episodes of hospitalization of Vermont residents in general hospitals in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and neighboring counties of New York State. For more information visit <http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/res-eval/inpatient-data-book.aspx>.

The Mental Health and Substance Abuse diagnostic codes are based on those used in the United States Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) report on "Care of Adults with Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorders in U.S. Community Hospitals, 2004." A PIP based in part on this report can be found at <http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2007/documents/Pip061507.pdf>. Nicotine Dependence is determined by having a MDC IV Diagnoses code of 305.10.