



**WADD**  
World Association  
on Dual Disorders

## WADD EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS 2022

### FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF NEUROSCIENCES AND PRECISION PSYCHIATRY

The WADD, in the context of its training program, is pleased to announce a **SERIES OF WEBINARS** throughout 2022 on different topics of great interest and current relevance in the field of Dual Disorders with the best leaders in the subject.

These webinars will be **FREE OF CHARGE** and will be addressed to all those professionals interested in the topic, even if they are not WADD members.

The structure of the webinars will consist of a short presentation by the speakers (approximately 10 minutes) followed by time for questions and answers.

### “DUAL DISORDERS”

Dual disorder is a term applied to patients with an addictive disorder and other mental disorder. Epidemiological studies have established that dual disorders are an expectation rather than an exception. They are difficult to diagnose and treat and constitute a huge burden for patients, their relatives and society.

Neuroscience has revealed that addiction and other mental disorders involve a set of interconnected brain processes that can be targeted strategically, rather than being a disorder primarily defined by a single behavior (such as uncontrollable excessive drug use) (1). Advances in genetics and precision psychiatry suggest that dual disorders arise, in part, from a shared genetic etiology (2).

- 1- Volkow ND. *Personalizing the treatment of substance use disorders. Am J Psychiatry.* (2020) 177:113–6. doi: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2019.19121284.
- 2- Mallard TT, Paige Harden K, Fromme K. *Genetic risk for schizophrenia is associated with substance use in emerging adulthood: an event-level polygenic prediction model. Psychol Med.* (2019) 49:2027–35. doi: 10.1017/S0033291718002817

### FIRST WADD WEBINAR: FOCUSING ON DUAL PSYCHOSIS MARCH, 23rd, 2022

**Day:** Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

**Hour:** 1:00 pm (CET). [Please see here your time in your time zone.](#)

**Goal:** The educational goal of this webinar is to generate scientific discussion regarding Dual Psychosis, with speakers from different parts of the world and to expand the knowledge and skills of the clinicians and experts who treat dual psychosis patients every day from the clinic.

**Structure:** Each speaker will have a 10-minute presentation on his or her topic and the webinar will last around 2,5 hours. The presentations will be followed by time for Q&A.



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**PROGRAMME:**

**Chair:** Nestor Szerman

**Co-chair:** José Martínez-Raga

**This webinar will provide attendees with a practical understanding of Dual Psychosis:**  
From neuroscience to clinical problems.

**Topics and speakers:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
13:00-13:02	Welcome and introduction	Dr. Szerman and Dr. Martínez-Raga, Spain
13:02-13:12	What is the relationship between psychosis and Substance Use Disorder (SUD)	Dr. Jibran Khokhar, USA
13:12-13:22	Dual Psychosis and the Opioid System	Dr. Icro Maremanni, Italy
13:22-13:32	Tobacco use disorder and Dual Psychosis	Dr. Néstor Szerman, Spain
13:32-13:42	Alcohol use disorder and psychosis	Dr. Jun Chen, China
13:42-13:52	Current composition of cannabis preparations and its consequences on psychosis risk	Dr. Rafael Maldonado, Spain
13:52-14:02	Cannabis and Dual Psychosis	Dr. José Martínez-Raga, Spain
14:02-14:12	Cross cultural use of Metamphetamine and Psychosis	Dr. Rosa Sauras, Spain
14:12-14:22	Psychosis and Behavioral Addictions	Dr. Yatan Pal Singh Balhara, India
14:22-14:32	Is there induced psychosis?	Dr. Celia Franco, Portugal
14:32-14:42	Treatment of dual psychosis	Dr. Bernardo Ng, Mexico
14:42-14:52	Partial dopaminergic agonists and dual psychosis	Dr. Lola Peris, Switzerland
14:52-15:02	Methadone and buprenorphine and dual psychosis	Angelo Maremanni, Italy
15:02-15:12	Neurodermatology and dual psychosis: from delusion of parasitosis to itching disorders	Dr. Hamed Ekhtiari and Dr. Mehdi Rashighi, USA



**15:12-15:22** Viral infections and dual psychosis

Dr. Lisa Blecha, France

**15:22-15:30** Q&A and Conclusion

### **JUSTIFICATION-BACKGROUND OF THE WEBINAR “DUAL PSYCHOSIS”:**

**Focusing specifically on Psychosis and Schizophrenia:** we should ask questions about the underlying reasons for the patient's use of substances. As usual, we can find the answers in neuroscience. Growing scientific evidence supports the existence of a vulnerability to substance use in persons with psychosis and those at risk for it (3,4). “Large genome-wide association studies” (GWAS) are providing the information needed to investigate the genetics behind schizophrenia plus SUD and have yielded increasing evidence of a blurred boundary between the two. Significant genetic correlations were found between psychosis (and people at risk for it) and problematic use of the majority of substances that were analyzed.

An increasing number of researchers claim that, if schizophrenia and SUD share genetic underpinnings, this will strongly challenge the rigid diagnostic boundaries that separate these psychiatric disorders, which will have clinical implications. Understanding the pathogenesis of Dual psychosis as one entity should finally have the potential to improve clinical outcomes and treatments (5).

Current treatments are a combination of those needed to treat the addictive disorder and those focused on the other psychiatric disorder.

### **REFERENCES**

- 3- Peris L, Szerman N *Partial agonists and Dual disorders. Focus on dual schizophrenia. Front. Psychiatry*, 16 December 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyt.2021.769623>
- 4- Khokhar JY, Dwiell LL, Henricks AM, Doucette WT, Green AI. *The link between schizophrenia and substance use disorder: a unifying hypothesis. Schizophr Res.* (2018) 194:78–85. doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2017.04.016
- 5- Polimanti R, Agrawal A, Gelernter J. *Schizophrenia and substance use comorbidity: a genome-wide perspective. Genome Med.* (2017) 9:25. doi: 10.1186/s13073-017-0423-3.