

# The International Collaboration on ADHD and Substance Abuse (ICASA)

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ICASA is a research organization with the focus on Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Substance Use Disorders (SUD). ICASA strives to find answers and solutions for a better quality of life for people with ADHD and SUD via high quality research. The aim is to contribute to a substantial decrease in the proportion of ADHD patients developing an addiction and to substantially improve the detection, diagnosis and treatment of patients having both ADHD and SUD. The International ADHD in Substance use disorders Prevalence study (IASP) is one important part of ICASA. In 10 countries all over the world, close to 3'600 SUD treatment seeking patients were screened on ADHD by the Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS). Of them approximately 1'250 patients agreed to participate in the IASP study and completed a full assessment on ADHD, SUD and other psychiatric disorder (for further information see [www.adhdandsubstanceabuse.org](http://www.adhdandsubstanceabuse.org)).

In the Swiss IASP study, 400 patients with Alcohol Use Disorders (AUD) attending one of three inpatient treatment programs for AUD were assessed additionally to the full assessment with the Obsessive Compulsive Drinking Scale (OCDS), the Screening for Substance Use Disorders (SSUD), the Screening for Symptoms of Withdrawal (SSW) and the Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI) from three inpatient treatment programs.

There is also a co-operation with the Swiss Cohort Study on Substance Use Risk Factors (C-SURF; Prof. Dr. Gerhard Gmel, PhD, PI; see [www.c-surf.ch](http://www.c-surf.ch))

## References

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