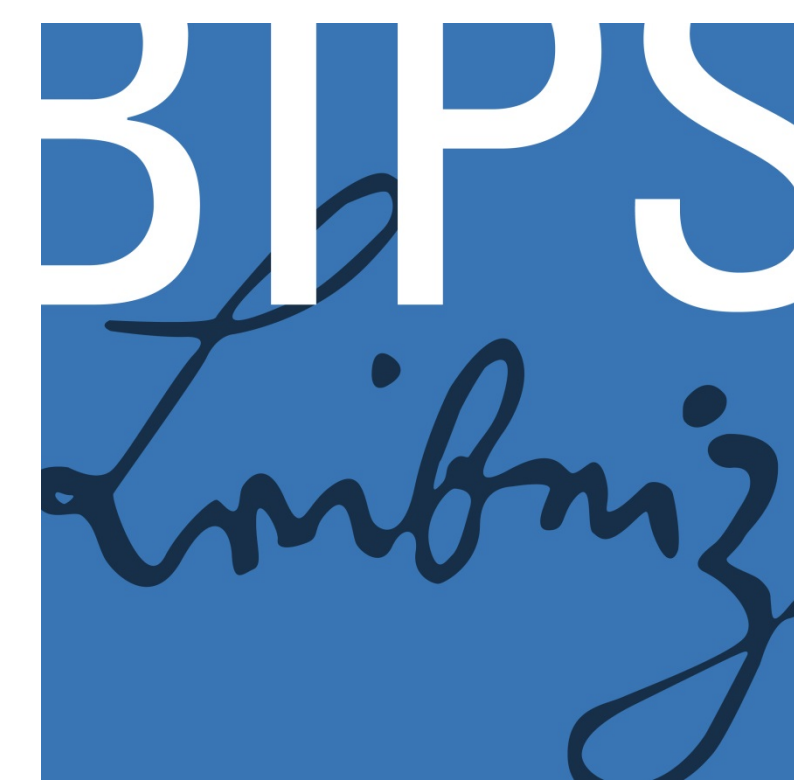


# SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES IN ADDICTION RESEARCH: ATTRIBUTES AND ATTITUDES

## A MULTI METHODS APPROACH (A-BRAIN)



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### Background & Aims

#### Background

- Conceptions of addiction vary widely between and within groups (general public, clinicians, neuroscientists, addicted persons, treatment providers)
- Highly controversial, between and within the groups
- Addiction scientists: important group when it comes to knowledge creation, accumulation, transfer, and framing of addiction
- Their attitudes have not yet been studied systematically

#### Aims

- Assessment of attitudes of scientists towards classification of addiction as brain disease/disorder

### Methods

#### Sample

- 1,440 addiction scientists identified and invited
- 190 participants = 13,19% response rate

#### Questionnaire covers

- General conception of addiction (ontology, responsibility, support)
- Attitude towards brain-based explanations of addiction and its consequences (ethical, legal, for prevention, treatment, research)
- Information about networks / knowledge exchange in the field of addiction research

#### Data collection

- LimeSurvey
- Personal invitation via email at 3 points in time (12 Feb - 11 Aug 2019, 6 months)

### Discussion and Conclusions

- Challenging to define boundaries of target group
- Attitudes towards classification of addiction as brain disease/disorder
  - Rarely one-dimensional
  - Vary between substances
- Large research gaps, e.g. on
  - Scientists' assessment of the useful future orientation of addiction research from a multidisciplinary perspective
- Analysis of properties, structure and networks of the epistemic community of addiction researchers to define who shapes public and scientific views of addiction

### Results

Table 1: Sample description – sex distribution

	Males		Females		Anonymous participants		Sums	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Invited	882	61.25	558	38.75			1440	100
Participants	128	67.37	60	31.58	2	1.05	190	100
<b>Response rates</b>		14.51		10.75				<b>13.19</b>

Table 2: Sample description - geographical distribution

Continent	Invited			Participants			Response rates
	Countries	Persons	% of sample	Countries	Persons	% of sample	per continent
North America	3	848	58.89	3	86	45.26	10.14%
Europe	27	431	29.93	17	81	42.63	18.79%
Australia	1	89	6.18	1	9	4.74	10.11%
Asia	10	37	2.57	4	7	3.68	18.92%
New Zealand	1	15	1.04	1	1	0.53	6.67%
Africa	4	11	0.76	4	0	0.00	0.00%
South America	4	9	0.63	2	4	2.11	44.44%
Unknown					2	1.05	
<b>Sums</b>	49	1,440	100.00	32	190	100.00	13.19%

\*Turkey assigned to Asia AND Europe; one Turkish scientist in Asia, one in Europe; Russia only assigned to Europe as all scientists from European part

Figure 1: Sample description - academic disciplines (bepress taxonomy of academic disciplines)

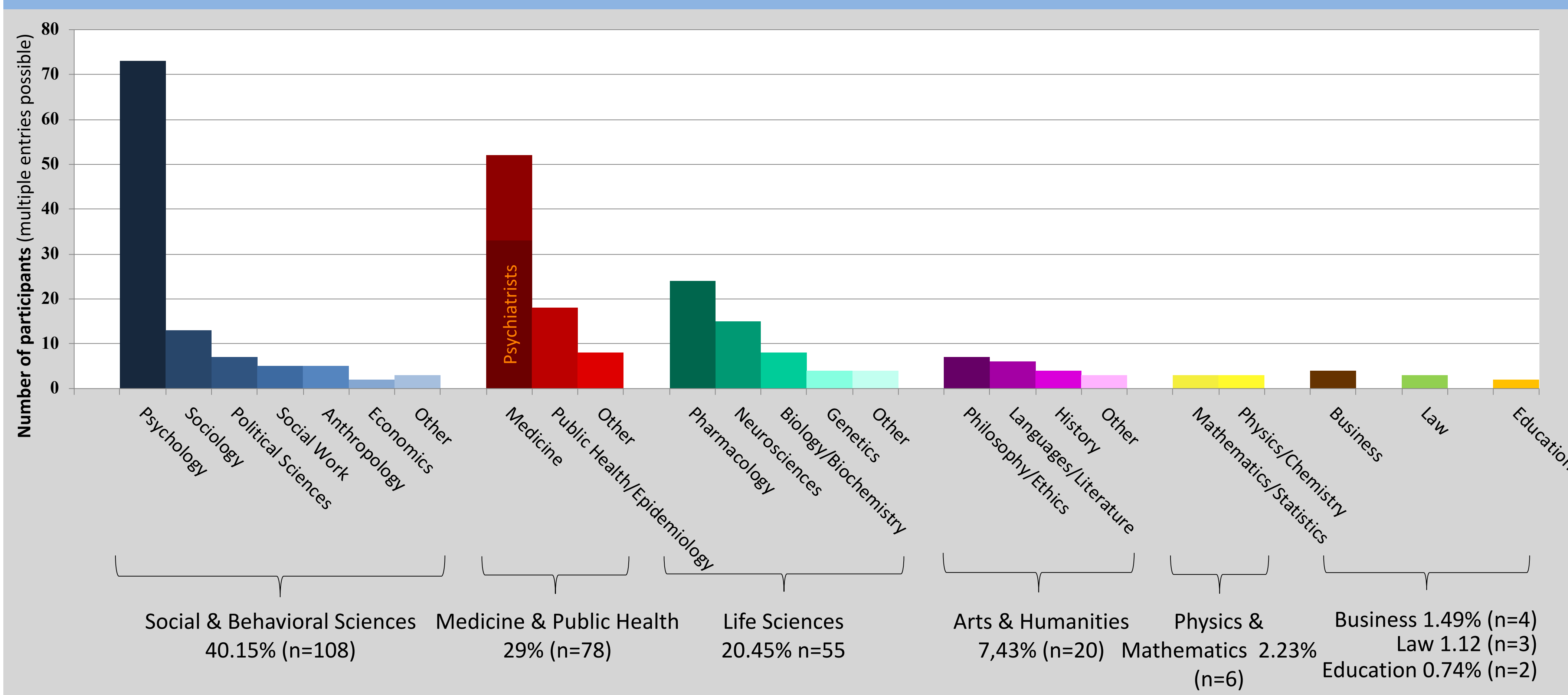
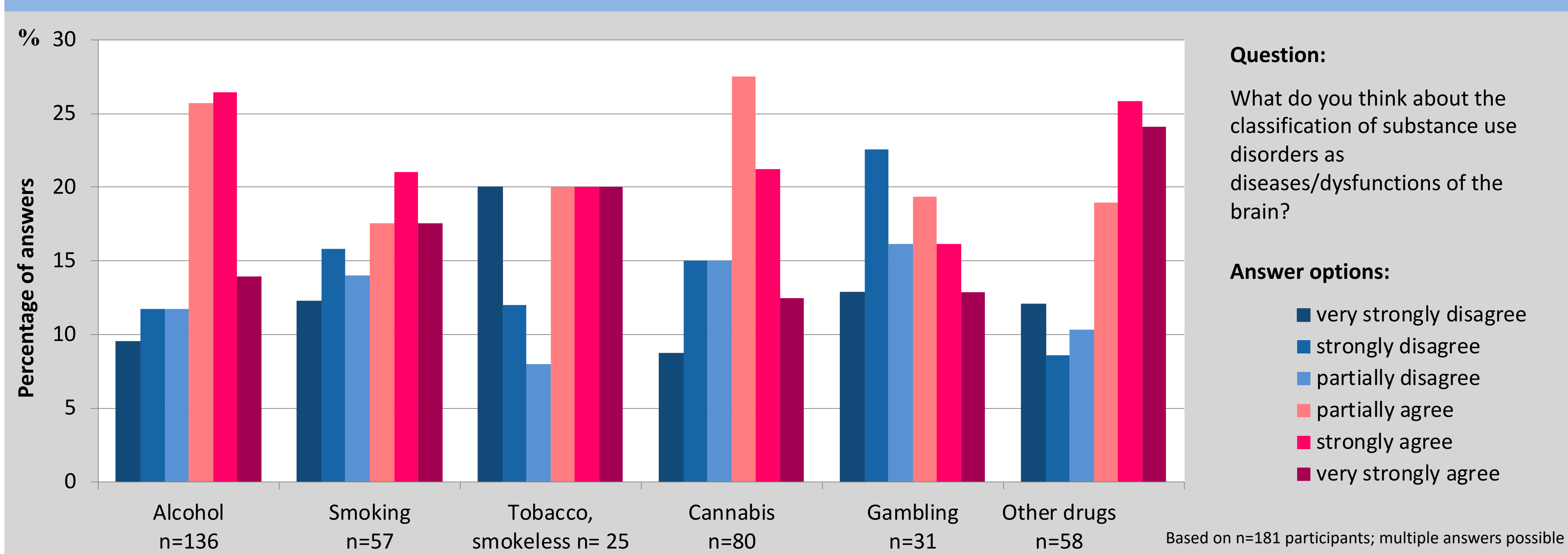


Figure 2: Scientists' attitudes – classification of substance use disorders as diseases/dysfunctions of the brain?



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