

ASSESSMENT OF PERSONALITY TRAITS, IMPULSIVITY, AND GAMBLING-RELATED COGNITIONS IN PATIENTS WITH GAMBLING DISORDER**Furkan Bekdemir¹, Selçuk Özdin¹, Buket Satılmış¹, Rabia Aydın Öztemel¹, Recep Bolat², Demet Ünsal Çelebi²**¹*Psychiatry Department, Ondokuz Mayıs University, Faculty of Medicine, Samsun, Türkiye*²*Samsun Mental Health and Diseases Hospital, Samsun, Türkiye*

BACKGROUND AND AIM: Gambling disorder (GD) is a psychiatric disorder that has increased in frequency in recent years and brings with it serious psychiatric and social problems. GD is associated with many etiological causes. In this study, some of these possible factors, impulsivity, personality traits and underlying cognitions, will be evaluated, and their relationship with the severity of gambling disorder will be assessed.

METHODS: The study included 43 patients with GD who applied to Ondokuz Mayıs University Faculty of Medicine Psychiatry Clinic and Samsun Mental Health and Diseases Hospital AMATEM Clinic between 01.10.2024 and 01.02.2025. The participants included in the study completed the sociodemographic data form prepared for the study, South Oaks Gambling Screening Test, Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9), Generalized Anxiety Disorder-7 Test (GAD-7), Gambling-Related Cognitions Scale (CRGS), Barratt Impulsivity Scale Short Form (BIS) and Eysenck Personality Inventory. Approval for the study was received from the Ondokuz Mayıs University Clinical Research Ethics Committee with the number 2025/27.

RESULTS: Most participants (40/43) were male. The mean age of the participants was 32.7 ± 8.5 , 24 of them were single and 16 of them were self-employed. The mean age at which the participants started gambling was 26.7 ± 8.3 . A low positive correlation ($r: 0.326$, $p: 0.040$) was found between the severity of gambling disorder and the CRGS- interpretative control/bias subscale. A low negative correlation was found between the age of GD onset and the GRCS- gambling-related expectancies ($r: -0.427$, $p: 0.006$) subscale and the BIS lack of planning ($r: -0.341$, $p: 0.031$) subscale.

CONCLUSIONS: The age of onset in GD may be related to different clinical features of GD. GD seen at an older age is considered a more isolated type of addiction. Since cognitions are the underlying and sustaining factors of GD, they are also one of the critical targets in treatment.

Keywords: Gambling disorder, Gambling-related cognitions, impulsivity, onset age, personality traits