GENDER AND GAMBLING DISORDERS

KEY FACTS

- Studies indicate that men are more likely to gamble and to develop gambling-related problems than women.\(^1,2\)

- While gambling has historically been a predominantly male pastime, as legalized gambling has expanded, female participation has increased.\(^3\)

- While it has been assumed that males prefer table games and track betting, and women prefer bingo and slot machines, studies have shown that gender is not a determining influence on game preference.\(^3\)

- Women are more likely than men to seek treatment for and recover from pathological gambling, although the vast majority of people are able to recover from pathological gambling without formal treatment.\(^1\)

- While women are significantly less likely to suffer from pathological gambling than men, there commonly are a nearly equal number of men and women in treatment samples due to the fact that women are far more likely to seek treatment.\(^1\)

- According to studies, the gender differences in pathological gambling recovery rates may indicate that the disorder is more chronic and intractable among men than among women.\(^1\)

- While men are more likely to gamble and to develop gambling-related problems than women, a stronger association exists between depression and other mood disorders and gambling problems among women (compared to men) classified as at-risk for developing a gambling disorder.\(^4\)

REFERENCES


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