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| **Title of Research Presentation** Gender difference in smartphone use patterns and smartphone addiction trajectories among preteens  |
| **Background/Objectives**Childhood use of mobile devices has dramatically increased in many countries during the past decade. Although most SNSs (e.g., Facebook) state that the minimum age requirement for creating an account is 13, more children frequently use social networking sites (SNSs) and online gaming are at increased risks for developing smartphone addiction. However, research identifying determinants of smartphone addiction trajectories among preteens is scarce. This study aims to analyse transitions in patterns of smartphone addiction from 5th grade to 6th grade and examine gender difference in smartphone use patterns on smartphone addiction trajectories. **Methods**A representative sample of 2,155 primary school students from Taipei completed the longitudinal survey in both the 2015 (5th grade) and 2016 (6th grade) surveys. Latent class analysis was used to identify classes of smartphone addiction, while latent transition analysis was conducted to examine the effects of changes in smartphone use patterns on smartphone addiction trajectories.**Results**Latent class analysis identified three latent class of smartphone addiction: normal, smartphone addiction risk, smartphone addiction. The prevalence of smartphone addiction among girls (5th grade =13%, 6th grade=18%) was higher than boys (5th grade =10%, 6th grade=11%). Preteens with smartphone addiction were more likely to have withdrawal and tolerance features. The transition probabilities from normal at 5th grade to smartphone addiction risk at 6th grade were 0.30 for girls and 0.25 for boys. Multivariate analysis results showed that after controlling for parents’ education, household income and child’s depression, girls with increases in SNSs usage over time were more likely to change from normal at 5th grade to smartphone addiction risk at 6th grade, while boys with increase in smartphone gaming over time were more likely to initiate smartphone addiction. **Discussion**The findings indicated that girls were more prone to smartphone addiction than boys. SNSs usage increased risks of initiating smartphone addiction for girls, while smartphone gaming increased risks of smartphone addiction for boys. Enforcement of the minimum age requirement for SNSs usage and implementation parental mediation of children’s smartphone use are vital to prevent smartphone addiction among preteens. **Keywords**Smartphone addiction, social networking sites usage, smartphone gaming |