students due to insufficient information. The questionnaire included items about Internet use patterns, Internet addiction scale, impulsivity scale, and temperament scale, to examine the gender differences, Crosstabs, and two-way ANOVA, hierarchical regression were conducted. *Results:* Among the participants, 199 (10.9%) had been categorized as risk group of Internet addiction, the risk group consisted of 13.0% of boys and 7.4% of girls. Percentage difference between genders was statistically significant. The analyses of variances revealed significant interaction effect on used time per a day. Effect of temperament on Internet addiction showed no difference according to gender in hierarchical regression analysis. *Conclusions:* Results of the study showed that gender differences in factors associated with Internet addiction is statistically significant for some variables. However, more research is needed concerning gender differences in order to better understand Internet addiction.

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PO-09
More than an "eattitude": Orthorexia Nervosa a new behavioural addiction?

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Background and aims: Orthorexia Nervosa (ON) is a disorder characterized by obsession on healthy food and proper nutrition; fears and worries about health, eating, and the quality of food are significant. ON seems to be a multifactorial condition that involves strong environmental factors (social models, culture, economic status) as well as personality aspects (perfectionism, narcissism and rigidity). Although there is an increased amount of literature in the field, ON it is not currently considered as a fullfledged and discrete mental disorder. We aimed here to assess the prevalence of ON in a large sample population and to identify some possible specific correlations and related psychopatological dimensions. *Methods:* A validated questionnaire (ORTHO-15) was distributed among a sample of 1453 young Italian adults (mean age = 22.28 yo) from the general population to investigate the prevalence of ON and sociodemographic features. *Results:* ON was found among 10.9% of our sample, with a significantly higher female prevalence (female vs. male = 72.8% vs. 27.2%). Age and Body Mass Index were not significant factors in the Orthorectic group. ON might be related to obsessive concerning about food, to low self-esteem, to body image disturbances, as well as avoidance of social situations that may interfere with a "healthy" meal. *Conclusions:* ON might be conceptualized as an eating disorder, or within obsessive–compulsive spectrum, or possibly as a new social/behavioural addiction, showing the complexity of its phenomenology. Further studies are needed to clarify appropriate diagnostic methods as well as the core nature of this condition and possible relevant clinical implications.

PO-10
Exercise addiction at different levels of athletic involvement: Examining the possible moderating role of passion

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Background and aims: Exercise addiction (EA) research is largely based on questionnaire measures. Differences in the subjective connotation of questionnaire-items may yield inconsistent findings. In this study, we addressed the issue by studying simultaneously EA with harmonious passion (HP) and obsessive passion (OP). *Methods:* Volunteers ($n = 325$), including leisurely physically active individuals, athletes competing at the regional level, and athletes competing at national or international level, completed the Exercise Addiction Inventory and the Harmoniuous Passion, Obsessive Passion Scale. *Results:* A statistically significant ($p < .001$) multivariate analysis of variance, followed up with univariate tests and Tukey's *post-hoc* tests, revealed that leisurely active individuals differed from athletes at both regional and national/international levels; they scored lower on EA measures, as well as on HP and OP. The two groups of athletes did not differ from each other on any of the dependent measures. Regression analyses indicated that the shared variance between EA and HP was only 9%. However, the common variance between EA and OP scores was 36%. The amount of reported weekly exercise correlated equally with both EA and OP scores ($r = .39$, $p < .001$). *Conclusions:* The present study demonstrates that EA as well as HP and OP are rated differently by leisure exercisers and competing athletes. Level of competition does not appear to make a difference. The high commonality between the obtained values of EA and OP, as well as the equal correlation of these with the weekly amount of exercise, warrants future research work for a clearer conceptualization of EA as a psychological morbidity.

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