

Scientific mapping of behavioral addictions in the case of peruvian journals

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Abstract

Background: Publications on addictive behaviors have been increasing including their contextual heterogeneity in different virtual platforms in order to generate visibility. **Objective:** it was to identify the networks of collaboration, authorship and keywords on addictive behaviors. **Method:** Scientific mapping and bibliometric indicators were used to analyze the evolution of addictive behaviors in indexed and non-indexed journals in Peru. **Results:** 38% of articles were single authorship, 43 of them use quantitative data (81%), 23 worked with young participants (53.5%), 37 are empirical studies (69.9%) and internet addiction was more frequent (39.6 %). Peruvian journals in SCI since 2006 have presented at least an index value $h = 1$. **Conclusion:** there is evidence of difficulty in tracking studies on addictive behaviors in Peruvian journals, added to the lack of clear regulations, generate a complex task that influences its lack of visibility.

Keywords: addiction; scientific publication; databases; indexing.

Mapeo científico de las adicciones comportamentales en el caso de las revistas peruanas

Resumen

Introducción: Las publicaciones sobre conductas adictivas han ido en aumento incluyendo su heterogeneidad contextual en diferentes plataformas virtuales con el fin de generar visibilidad. **Objetivo:** Identificar las redes de colaboración, autoría y palabras clave sobre conductas adictivas. **Método:** Se utilizó el mapeo científico e indicadores bibliométricos para analizar la evolución de las conductas adictivas en revistas indizadas y no indizadas de Perú. **Resultados:** 38% de artículos fueron de autoría única, 43 de ellos usaron datos cuantitativos (81%) 23 trabajaron con participantes jóvenes (53.5%), 37 son estudios empíricos (69.9%) y la adicción a internet fue más frecuente (39.6%). Las revistas peruanas en SCI a partir del 2006 han presentado por lo menos un valor de índice $h = 1$. **Conclusión:** Se evidencia dificultad para rastrear estudios sobre conductas adictivas en revistas peruanas que, sumado a la falta de normativas claras, generan una tarea compleja que influye en su falta de visibilidad.

Palabras clave: adicción; publicación científica; bases de datos; indización.

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Introduction

Addictive behaviors have been increasing in the last two decades (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC], 2019) and have taken different routes and access, generating harmful consequences in different populations, as well as different explanatory models for their approach (Andreassen, 2015; Apud & Romani, 2016). Within the access to this type of behaviors, two major fields are differentiated: substance-related (conventional) addictive behaviors and nonsubstance or behavioral addictions (Braun et al., 2019; Cía, 2014; Echeburúa, 2016; Hormes et al., 2014; Kuss et al., 2017; Van Rooij & Prause, 2014). This difference in the type of access and addictive behavior does not imply less attention, because this second block (addictions without substances) also evidences a dangerous dynamic in the deterioration of different fields in the personal, social, and family spheres (Becoña & Oblitas, 2003; Bisso-Andrade, 2013; Chávez et al., 2017); configuring a route with the study of pathological gambling, addiction to social networks, problematic smartphone use, online gambling, cybersex, and even work (Cotlear et al., 2009; Estévez et al., 2017; Goldberg, 1995; Lara & Miyahira, 2009; Leon, 2014; Marín, 2018; Palomares, 2017; Rengifo et al., 2015; Salas-Blas & Ecurra, 2014; Salas-Blas et al., 2017; Salas-Blas & Copez-Lonzoy, 2018; Yarlequé et al., 2013).

However, some of the consequences of nonsubstance addictions cannot be observed quickly because, initially, the behavioral patterns are not different from what normally happens, in any case, it can be said that the deterioration is perceived with some slowness and when it manifests itself in conjunction with other consequences (studies, work, family and friends, etc.); although numerous studies warn of the implications in the relationship with psychopathological factors (Araujo-Robles, 2015, 2016a, 2016b; Casale & Fioraventi, 2018; Castro & Mahamud, 2017; Castro, et al, 2012; Cruzado et al., 2006; Donnelly & Kuss, 2016; Echeburúa, 2012; Han et al., 2018; Rojas-Jara et al., 2020; Yen et al., 2019; Yu & Cho, 2016), with disruptive behavior (Cañón et al., 2016; Castaño & Paez, 2019, Matalinares et

al., 2013a, 2013b), problems with the law (Dhaha, 2013), association with substance abuse (Cruzado et al., 2006; Rücker et al., 2015), secondary databases (Arcaya et al., 2012), and personality (Arias & Masías, 2016).

In this sense, the dissemination of knowledge through publications in this specific field is important to consider the evolution of the construct over time (Perestelo-Pérez, 2013), while at the same time it can help to make decisions on the monitoring of a problem among its emerging and/or descending axes and identify significant changes in the way of studying this variable.

Scientific mapping is a tool that takes a set of bibliographic records of a research field and generates a general description of the underlying knowledge domain that helps to understand critical points that assess the impact of studies, collaborative networks, and cooperating entities (Chen & Song, 2019) because of various bibliometric indicators and dynamic and structural evolution of specific terms (Moreno-Guerrero et al., 2020). This methodology is beneficial for its approach to a better understanding of the multidimensionality of addictions, the geographical complexity, the heterogeneity of the results, and evolution in the scientific field.

While it is true that this heterogeneity can allow an overview for a documentary follow-up, it can also make invisible points of reference by the magnitude of research groups, sources of production, journals in the process of getting indexed, and several published papers (Avila-Toscano et al., 2014; Vera-Villaruel et al., 2010). Peruvian journals are part of the emerging groups, which can generate valuable outreach since their approach collaborates with a greater understanding of regional studies in specific research trends (Morales, 2016; Santillán-Aldana et al., 2017).

The usefulness of this work is important in the field of psychological addictions in Peru and Latin America thanks to its extension and possible development of research policies in this field, as it will allow an objective assessment of the published knowledge and unnecessary duplicate efforts with predictable results and unjustified expenditure of material and human resources (Perestelo-Pérez, 2013).

The selection of publications was developed through consultations in the *Scielo Citation Index (SCI)* of Web of Science, in the Regional Online Training System for Scientific Journals of Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal (Latindex), and in the Google Scholar search engine. Likewise, we have also collected publications that were not indexed at the time when consultations were made, and in some cases when reviewing the references of publications that were known by the researchers.

The search included journals from different areas of knowledge such as psychology, health sciences, education, social sciences, humanities, and some of a multidisciplinary nature. Likewise, studies conducted in different types of addiction such as internet, social networks, video games, work, etc., were considered (Arias & Masías, 2017; Calle-Sarmiento et al., 2013; Contreras, 2015; Delgado et al., 2016; Domínguez & Ybañez, 2016; Espinoza, 2018; Flores et al., 2015; Gamero et al., 2016; Gómez-Burns & Arela-Bobadilla, 2017; Martino, 2014; Mejía et al., 2014; Morales, 2015; Padilla-Romero & Ortega-Blas, 2017; Salas, 2014; Sanchez-Meca & Botella, 2010; Uchuypoma, 2017; Valencia, 2016; Vara, 2017). The objectives of the study were to analyze the development of research on behavioral addictions in Peruvian journals in a period ranging from 2003 to 2019; characteristics of the publication medium, level of visibility and indexing, the area and institution of affiliation were analyzed; to analyze the research production considering the methodological aspects used (designs, participants, and instruments) and the scope of citation of the studies.

Method

Type of Study

A documentary study was carried out and a scientific model and bibliometric indicators were used for the analysis of processes related to the quantification and evaluation of scientific production (Moreno-Guerrero et al., 2020).

Search Strategy

For the search, two specific routes were considered due to the diversification in the classification of Peruvian scientific journals; first, all Peruvian journals were identified that had the subject of behavioral addictions that were found in various repositories, registries, harvesters, and/or search engines (e.g., Google Scholar), the year 2003 was considered as the first record of this variable until 2019. Initially, more than 120 documents were found, when analyzed with the inclusion and exclusion criteria planned, they were reduced to 53. As data of historical interest, the first paper was published in 2003 by the Journal of Psychology of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), the year in which more papers were published was 2016, and in the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia were found up to five journals that published papers related to the subject of this research.

For the next step, the journals that belonged to a database as a minimum criterion (indexed in *Scielo Citation Index*) were identified. In general, the search strategy covered the relevant concepts in nonsubstance addictive behaviors (Topic = TS) for the word family of behavioral addictions. This strategy was formulated for the most relevant criteria in addictive behaviors based on the current literature and the identification of variants in the search words. In this process, 72 papers were identified, and the same inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied to finally select 11 papers for analysis. The data of the indexed journals were extracted from Web of Science (*Scielo Citation Index*).

Unit of Analysis: Criteria for Inclusion and Paper Selection

Some inclusion and exclusion criteria were considered for the initially selected papers. Among the inclusion criteria, the following was proposed: they should have been published in a Peruvian scientific journal, indexed or not until March 2019, in its different document types (theoretical, empirical, methodological, etc.) published in journals on physical or digital platforms. Likewise, some exclusion criteria were considered, such as

papers that dealt with the subject of the internet or social networks from perspectives other than addiction or problematic use, studies with an ambiguous source of publication that did not indicate the journal to which they belonged (gray literature) or other types of documents with low citation, such as letters to the editor, editorials, and book chapters.

Procedure

In the first phase of the study, Peruvian journals were located according to their presentation (virtual and printed). Once the journals were identified, the first date of publication on the topic of substance-free addictive behaviors was established to determine the range of the search (2003-2019) which generally included databases, evaluators, and harvesters, such as SCI, Redalyc, Latindex, and Google Scholar. Some keywords were used, such as “social network addiction” OR “social network dependence” OR “facebook addiction” OR “facebook dependence” OR “Problematic social network use” OR “internet addiction” OR “smartphone problematic use” OR “smartphone addiction” OR “instagram addiction” OR “problematic instagram use” OR workaholism OR “work addiction” OR addiction* OR “dependence of videogame” OR “videogame addiction” OR “dependence” OR “dependencia” OR “adicciones” OR “conducta adictiva”. They were entered into a database constructed for the purposes of the

study where the frequency of journal publications, methodological characteristics, and instrumental sources of the papers were analyzed.

Data Analysis

A bibliographic database was extracted from SCI to perform an analysis of information networks with the keywords of authors, coauthors, and organizations normalized by modularity (linlog), calibrating term attraction < 3 (Waltman & Van Eck, 2013), productivity counts, h-index, and other indexes that are not influenced by temporalities such as the m-index and the g-index that considers the existence of cited papers that do not fall within the h-index were also taken into account.

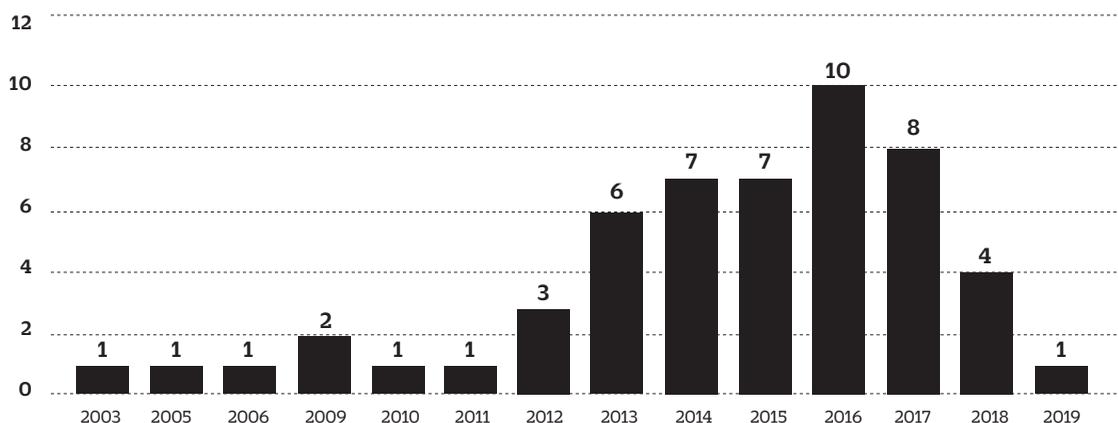
Results

The analyses seek to describe the development of publications around behavioral addictions made from 2003 to March 2019.

Characteristics of the Publications

Between 2003, 2005, and 2006 at least one paper was published per year, and in 2004, 2007, and 2008 no papers were published. Only from 2012, there was an increase in the number of publications and 2016 was the year in which the highest production was reached with 10 papers (see Figure 1).

Figure 1
Counting Publications on Behavioral Addictions



Frequency of Authorship

When analyzing the number of authors who sign the papers, it is evident that 38% of the papers have a single author, 25% of the papers were published by two authors, three authors published 15% of papers and with four authors there were three papers (6%). Conversely, with higher numbers, two papers were found to be signed by 10 authors each, in addition to one paper for each group with 12, 13, and 18 authors, with only 4% to 2%.

Analysis of Studies by Journal and Institution

The journal with the largest number of papers published on behavioral addictions was Hamut'ay, which published five papers and belongs to Universidad Alas Peruanas. Five journals published three papers each: *Avances en Psicología*, *Persona*, *Revista Científica de Ciencias de la Salud*, *Revista de Psicología de la PUCP*, and *Acta Psicológica Peruana*. Nine journals published two papers and 15 have published only one paper. When considering the discipline or area to which the journals belong, it is found that the greatest number of papers (24) and of journals (13) are in psychology, followed closely by publications in the area of health sciences, which are journals of different medical and nursing specialties (22 papers and 12 journals), in the area of education there were five papers and four journals, and a multithematic journal, which published two papers.

In addition to the journals that published papers on behavioral addictions, a total of 22 institutions were found, 16 are universities; five belong to specialized medical institutes or societies and one journal belongs to a university faculty's association. Five journals were found at the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, one in psychology and the others in different medical and nursing areas; two School journals were found at the Universidad de San Martín de Porres and one from the Association of Faculty; two journals were found at the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos (UNMSM) and the Universidad Católica San Pablo de Arequipa, and one journal was found at each of the other universities (see Table 1). The 53 selected papers were published in 38 journals; when reviewing their highest

indexing achievement, four of them have not yet reached any indexing, 16 of them are considered in the Latindex catalog.

Methodological Characteristics of the Papers

Among the methodological characteristics evaluated, it was found that so far there are no qualitative studies, 43 of them use primary or secondary quantitative data (81%) and 10 (19%) are of a narrative-theoretic type (Hernández et al., 2014). Among the 43 quantitative studies, 16 used samples of adolescents (34.78%), 23 studies worked with young participants (53.5%), two worked with young people (53.5%), two used adult population, one used census data analysis, and one used patient records.

Three main types of papers were configured according to the type of design: four papers (7.5%) of instrumental type, referring to the construction or validation of instruments; 10 of narrative theoretical type (19%) and two (3.7%) contained secondary analyses of data from a national survey previously developed for different purposes and from clinical records of patients admitted to a psychiatric hospital); and 37 were empirical quantitative studies (69.9%), of descriptive or associative type (Ato et al., 2013). In addition, considering the technique used for data collection, it was found that 12 of them (22.2%) used literature review, 10 of them were narrative studies, and two used secondary analysis. The remaining 41 (77.8%) used the survey technique, generally self-report surveys.

Regarding the instruments used in the 41 empirical studies, it was found that 15 scales or questionnaires were used, and eight ad hoc surveys were prepared for the specific study. Of the 15 instruments, 10 of them (66.6%) were prepared and/or validated in Peru, five of them were not validated (33.3%). The most commonly used instruments were two: ten studies (23.6%) employed the Questionnaire on Social Network Addiction (Adicción a las redes sociales - ARS, Ecurra & Salas-Blas, 2014), nine (21.4%) employed the *Internet Addiction Test* (IAT, Young, 1998).

Another issue of analysis that was raised was to review the methodological design used.

Table 1
Description of Journals by Affiliation, Discipline and Accumulated Studies

Magazine	Institution	Area/Discip.	Register	#papers
Rev. Psicológica Herediana	UPCH	Psychology	Latindex	1
Rev. de Enfermería Herediana	UPCH	Health Sciences	Latindex	1
Acta Psicológica Peruana	U. Autónoma	Psychology	none	3
Avances en Psicología	UNIFE	Psychology	Latindex	3
Rev. de Invest. En Psicología	UNMSM	Psychology	Latindex	2
Cultura	Asoc. Doc. Univ. S. Martín Porr (USMP)	Multithemed.	Latindex	2
Educationis Momentum	Univ. Cat. San Pablo (UCSP-Arequipa)	Education	none	1
Rev. De Psicología (Arequipa)	UCSP-Arequipa	Psychology	Latindex	2
Hamut'ay	Univ. Alas Peruanas	Health Sciences	Latindex	5
Horizontes de la Ciencia	Univ. Nac. Del Centro del Perú	Educación	Latindex	2
Persona	Univ. De Lima	Psicología	Latindex	3
Rev. Científica de CC. De la Salud	Univ. Peruana Unión	CC. Salud	Latindex	3
Rev. De Psicología de Arequipa	Colegio de Psicólogos de Arequipa	Psychology	Latindex	1
Rev. de Psicología	UCV	Psychology	Latindex	1
Rev. de Inv. y Casos en Salud-CASUS	UCSS	Health Sciences	Latindex	2
Rev. Digital EOS Perú	Instituto Psicopedagógico EOS Perú	Education	Latindex	1
Rev. PAIAN	Univ. Señor de Sipán	Psychology	none	1
Rev. Peruana de Epiemiología	Sociedad Per. De Epidemiología	Health Sciences	Latindex	1
Rev. De la Soc. Per. De Med. Interna	Soc. Peruana de Medicina Interna	Health Sciences	Latindex	1
Rev. Per.de Psic. Y Trab. Social	UIGV	Psychology	Latindex	2
Total papers				38

According to this criterion, the largest number of studies found and that were subject to analysis corresponded to the predictive (Ato et al., 2013) or correlational type (Hernández & Mendoza, 2018), 22 studies in total (41.5%), followed by descriptive studies and theoretical review studies. Within the studies with correlational design (41.5%), it was found that the themes that have been correlated with some of the behavioral addictions

were the following: work-family conflict, intrafamily relationships and family functioning (5 studies = 22.7%), personality (3 studies = 13.6%), aggressiveness (3 studies = 13.6%), social skills (3 studies = 13.6%); procrastination (2 studies = 9%); depression/loneliness with two studies (2 studies = 9%); and, with one study (4.55%, each) self-esteem, study habits, impulsivity, and academic performance.

Objects of Study Developed

Another aspect of the analysis proposed for this work has to do with the specific object studied, it was found that *internet addiction* is the most frequent object of study (39.6%); in second place, publications on addiction to social networks (25.4%), then addictions to video games were found in 9.4% of publications, as well as technological addictions. It should be noted that no evidence has been found on other addictions such as shopping, exercise, sex, affection, etc. (< 4%), which are the subject of publications elsewhere in the world.

The addictions studied have been analyzed with other variables related to personality, Arias & Masías (2016) found that there is no relationship between the amount of time spent using the computer and the measure of personality dimensions from the perspective of Eysenck; Torres (2015) related Internet consumption and personality, finding that neuroticism is positively related to Internet use in males aged 18 to 25 years.

Astonitas (2005) used the NEO-PI-R and a survey she developed on the risk of Internet addiction, she found that neuroticism correlates positively with the number of symptoms of Internet addiction; she also found that the facets of sense of duty, aspirations for achievement, self-discipline, and reflection, of the consciousness dimension correlate negatively with the number of symptoms of Internet addiction, an issue that is corroborated by the study of Chalco et al. (2016), who found negative correlations between various dimensions of the Child and Adolescent Self-Control Questionnaire and addiction to social networks. Likewise, we can include the work developed by Clemente et al. (2018) that positively correlates social network addiction and impulsivity; and obsession with social networks is positively correlated with social network addiction with premeditation, while inversely with negative urgency.

Improving Quality: Evolution of Studies on Behavioral Addictions in Indexed Journals

The indexing process helps to incorporate improvements in editorial processes, treatment,

and filtering of manuscripts, to be subsequently included in databases and international indexes (Chavarro et al., 2018; Navas-Fernández et al., 2018; Rousseau, 2002). In addition, journals that are indexed have more visibility and accessibility of publications unlike journals found in other platforms (e.g., registries, repositories, harvesters, or search engines).

Figure 2 shows the keyword network graph. Keywords (authors) were used to construct the co-occurrence networks. This implies the frequency of occurrence of the keywords as a route to research trends in behavioral addictions. The words with a higher frequency are represented by the node size (> 2 thresholds) for the time interval (2006 - 2019) configuring four clusters such as design, disruptive behavior problems, risk factors, and instrument use. For the graph of co-authorship networks by document (see Figure 3), the node size shows a higher collaboration with respect to the other documents (> 3 documents) for the time interval (2006 2019) that configure six clusters corresponding to the number of collaborations, the cluster with the highest activity (red) corresponds to a co authorship network over time.

The institutional collaboration networks (see Figure 4) show that UNMSM, for the 2006-2019 interval, has a greater collaboration with respect to the other institutions. In the peripheral nodes not connected to the graph, the Universidad Veracruzana (UV) is the only international institution that appears within the frequency of institutions in behavioral addictions in Peru (with only one institution). In addition, Diresa-Callao and UCH form a small collaboration in a connected but peripheral way with the graph.

The cumulative citation counts (TC) of the studies show between two to six general citations, in the case of the paper by Escurra and Salas-Blas (2014) it is the one that reports more citations for this database (TCa = .43). In addition, the *h-index* was extracted from the first author of the studies that did not show influence by the citation capacity in behavioral addictions, only one study reported funding regardless of data collection (see Table 2).

Figure 2
o-occurrence of Keywords in Behavioral Addictions

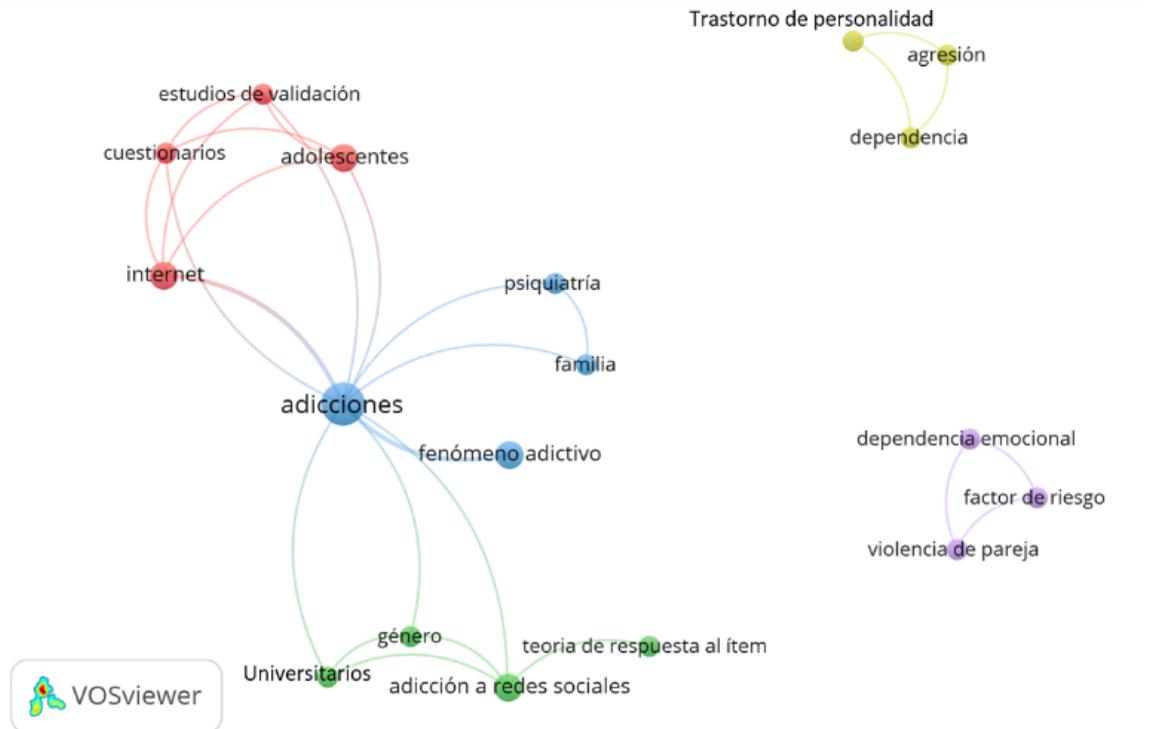


Figura 3
authoring Networks in Behavioral Addictions

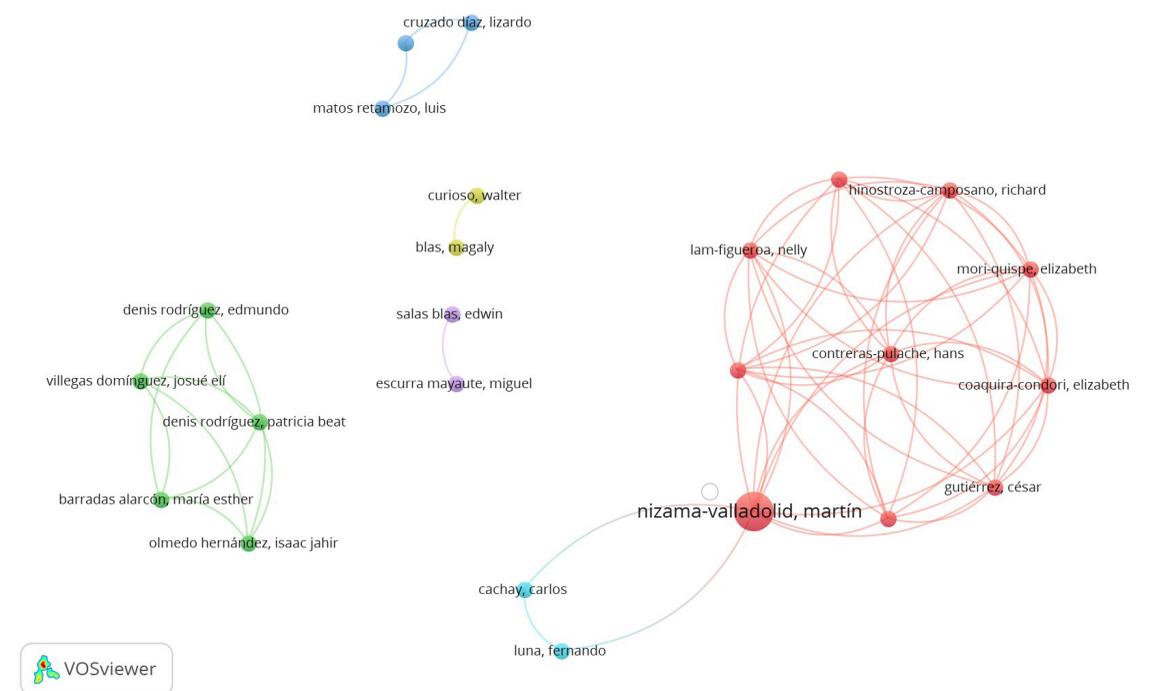
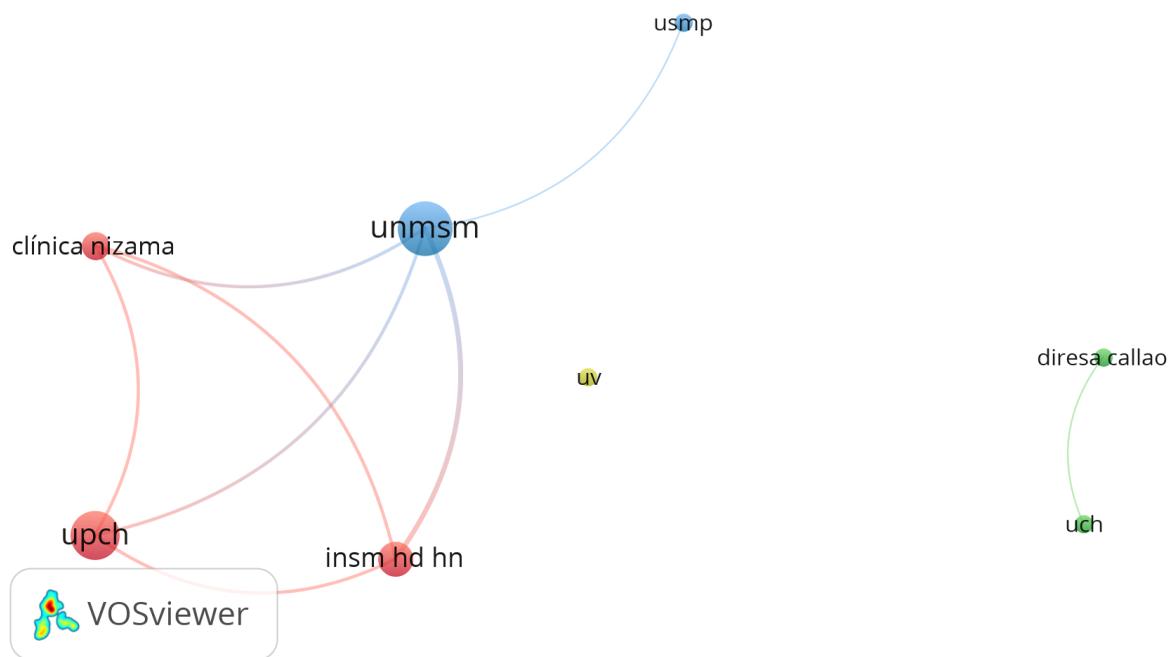


Figure 4
 Institutional Collaboration Networks by the Corresponding Author



Note: unmsm = Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos; upch = Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia; insm hd hn = Instituto Nacional de Salud Mental “Honorio Delgado - Hideyo Noguchi”; uch = Universidad de Ciencias y Humanidades; uv = Universidad de Valencia.

Since 2006, Peruvian journals have presented at least a value of index $h = 1$ in SCI, with a slight accumulated increase of publications ($g = 2$) as the case of the Revista Herediana, however, the greatest thematic influence so far is evidenced by the journal Liberabit ($m = .14$). The remaining group of journals, despite having a heterogeneous accumulation (e.g., NP = 2), does not have values for the indicators (Table 3). Furthermore, in the Peruvian context, no local citations have been identified among the authors, however, only three papers show global citations (CG) such as Cruzado et al., 2006 (CG = 6), Escurra & Salas-Blas, 2014 (CG = 3) and Lam-Figueroa et al., 2011 (CG = 2).

Discussion

Peruvian researchers are well aware of the shortcomings that the country has in terms of

scientific journals (Salas-Blas, 2019). There are several issues that this study brings to the surface: first, there are not enough journals to satisfy the current production; second, the journals that currently exist in the field do not yet have certifications and apparently a tenuous impact to compete with other better-positioned contexts, which results in most researchers having the need to look abroad, to adapt to the qualification systems by Peruvian university regulating bodies (Superintendencia Nacional de Educación Superior Universitaria - Sunedu) and the Consejo Nacional de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación (Concytec).

In terms of visibility, most Peruvian journals in this area do not have the characteristics and internationalization that are desirable to attract publications of first-level academics; recognized researchers seek publications indexed in databases such as Scopus or Web of Science (WOS), which in Peru are still very few.

Table 2
Papers on Behavioral Addictions in SCI-indexed Journals

Autor (es)	Year	Title	Journal	Financin	TC	TCa	h-index (a)ç
Nizama-Valladolid, Luna and Cachay	2019	Addictionology is a medical specialty and subspecialty of psychiatry.	Revista de la Facultad de Medicina Humana	no	0	0	1
Olmedo Hernández, Denis Rodríguez, Barradas Alarcón, Villegas Domínguez y Denis Rodríguez	2019	Aggressiveness and antisocial behavior in individuals with mobile phone dependence: a possible criminogenic factor	Horizonte Médico (Lima)	si	0	0	0
Araujo-Robles	2016b	Indicators of addiction to social networks in university students in Lima	Revista Digital de Investigación en Docencia Universitaria	no	0	0	1
Morales Quispe	2015	Use of information and communication technologies in adolescents in the public educational institutions of the Mi Perú District	Anales de la Facultad de Medicina	no	0	0	0
Nizama-Valladolid	2015	Conceptual innovation in addictions: Part Two	Revista de Neuro-Psiquiatra	no	0	0	1
Nizama-Valladolid	2015	Conceptual innovation in addictions: Part One	Revista de Neuro-Psiquiatra	no	0	0	1
Escurrea y Salas-Blas	2014	Construction and validation of the questionnaire on social network addiction (SNA)	Liberabit	no	3	0.43	1
Lam-Figueroa, Contreras-Pulache, Mori-Quispe, Nizama-Valladolid, Gutiérrez, Hinojosa-Camposano, Torrejón Reyes, Hinojosa-Camposano, Coaquira-Condori y Hinojosa-Camposano	2011	Internet addiction: development and validation of an instrument in adolescents at school in Lima, Peru	Revista Peruana de Medicina Experimental y Salud Pública	no	2	0.20	2
Curioso y Blas	2007	Internet, addiction, cybersex, and sexually transmitted infections in Peru: Fiction or reality?	Revista Médica Herediana	no	0	0	4
Cruzado Díaz, Matos Retamozo y Kendall Folmer	2006	Internet addiction: Clinical and epidemiological profile of hospitalized patients in a national institute of mental health	Revista Médica Herediana	no	6	0.40	1

Note: TC = total citations; TCa = total citations per year; (a) index h first author

Table 3*Journals that Published Studies on Behavioral Addictions in SCI*

Journal	PA	h	g	m	TC	#p
<i>Revista Medica Herediana</i>	2006	1	2	.07	6	2
<i>Liberabit</i>	2014	1	1	.14	3	1
<i>Revista Peruana de Medicina Experimental y Salud Publica</i>	2011	1	1	.10	2	1
<i>Revista de Neuro-Psiquiatra</i>	2015	0	0	0	0	2
<i>Anales de la Facultad de Medicina</i>	2015	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Horizonte Médico (Lima)</i>	2019	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Revista de la Facultad de Medicina Humana</i>	2019	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Revista Digital de Investigación en Docencia Universitaria</i>	2016	0	0	0	0	1

Note: TC = total citations; h = h-index; g = g-index; m = m-index; #p = No. of publications.

Our proposal reviews the evident crisis caused by the poor development of scientific journals, whose origin could have as one of its causes, inadequate management, as argued in Salas-Blas (2019). For the purpose of this research, only 30 journals (from various areas) were found, of which four are not yet found in any catalog or database. In that sense, in the case of psychology, there are more than 40 psychologist training centers and only 16 of them have a scientific journal, three have been indexed in Scielo and only one in Scopus and WOS.

The production of Colombia, Argentina, Mexico, or Brazil far exceeds this number of Peruvian journals on this subject; even more so if we consider that in the current times scientific production is demanded in the academic world and this is obviously not possible if there are no scientific publications that facilitate the production of scientific papers. In the 17 years involved in the search conducted for this study (2003 - 2019) only 53 papers were found that were subject to analysis, an average of 3.1 papers per year.

Regarding the methodological characteristics of the papers analyzed, around 80% of the papers contain quantitative data, almost 20% are theoretical review papers. More than half of them studied samples of young people, followed by studies done with adolescents; no studies

were found with children, parents, or teachers, which are important contexts as elements to analyze addictive or dependent behavior. One of the most striking issues is that only four studies are instrumental, two of them deal with the construction of instruments (Lam-Figueroa et al., 2011; Escurra & Salas-Blas, 2014) and the other two validated existing instruments. There are numerous studies that use instruments that have not been validated in the field, which detracts from the reliability of the data they found and reported.

It should be noted that one of the most important problems in Peru for the development of research within adequate conditions is the lack of validated instruments. It is found that the ARS

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