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INTRODUCTION

- Many evidences show health issues from new addictions, particularly internet addiction in adolescents

GENERAL AIM

- The present study aims to examine the gender differences among web users and the psychological and social effects on adolescent population.

METHODS

- A representative sample from a city of central Italy was chosen using the probability proportional to size (PPS) cluster technique. The total sample size was calculated to be 664 subjects from 10 schools and 66 classes. Data were collected from a sample of 535 students, enrolled after parents informed consent. All participants completed the Internet Addiction Test.

RESULTS

Internet Users

Age: $17 \pm 0,9$

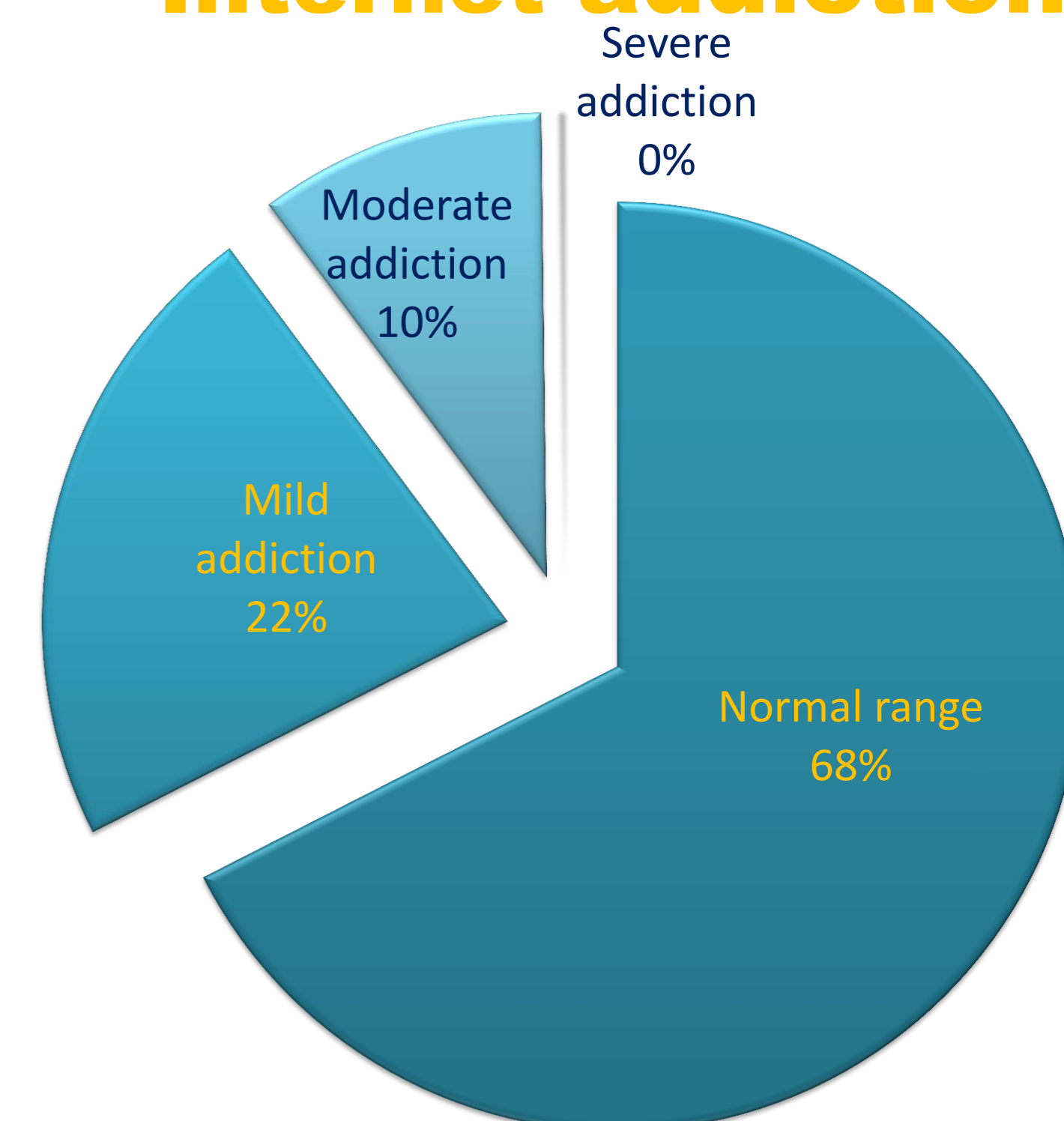
Gender: 57% female

Internet Addiction

Moderate: 52 students

Severe: 1 student

Internet addiction

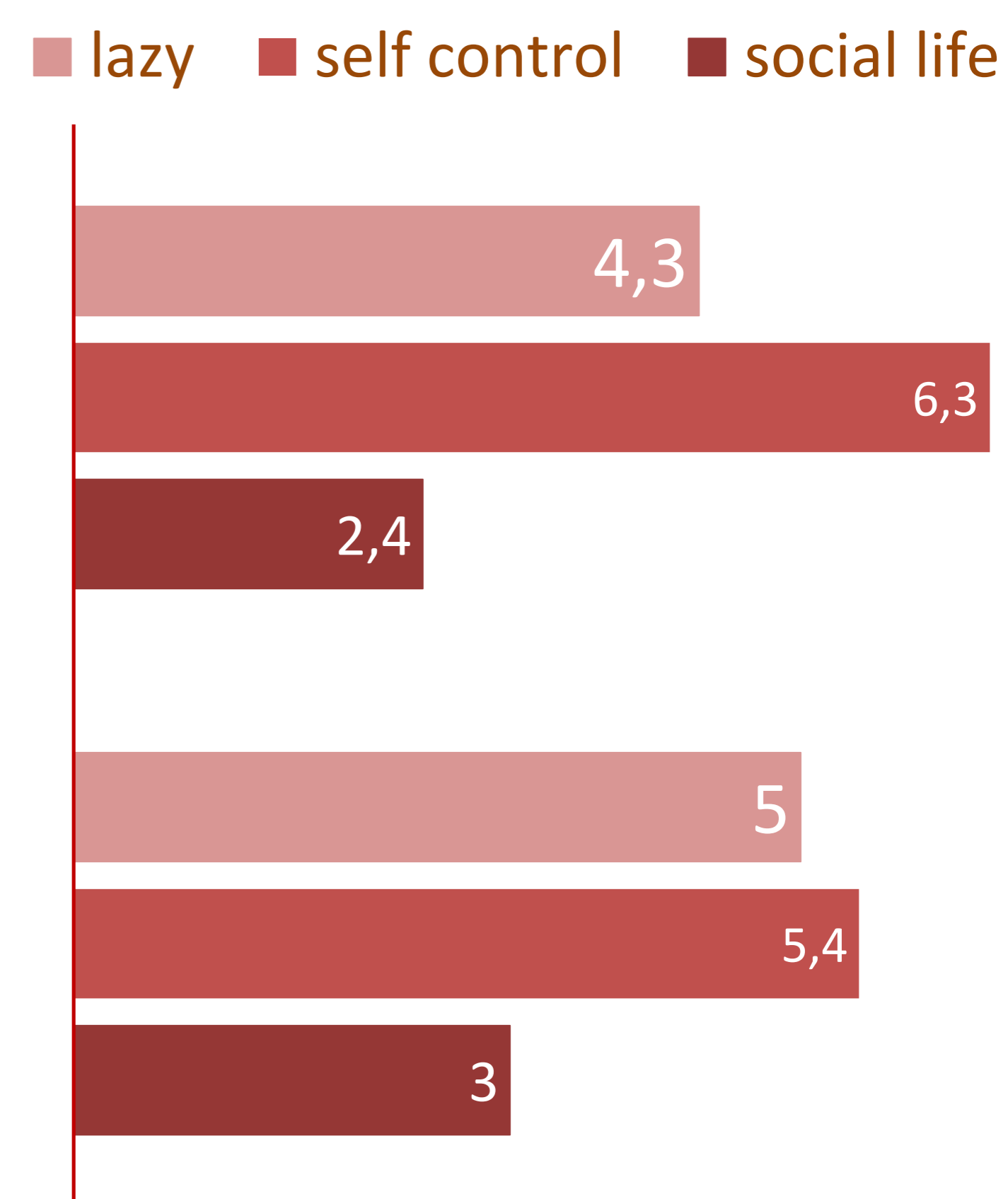


Males prefer the excitement offered by internet than partner intimacy (chi test=6.8; p=0.009)

Factors that investigate the psychological and social consequences:

Males lazier than females (F=5.14, p=0.0238),
Males have less active social life's (F=13.34, p=0.0003) and higher self-control (F=7.84, p=0.0053)

mean score



CONCLUSION

- The study shows how internet use influences the quality of life of the two sexes in adolescence in a different way and how the gender can be a discriminating factor in prevention strategies.