

A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INTO THE TRANSDIAGNOSTIC FEATURES OF BEHAVIOURAL ADDICTIONS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS IN INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TREATMENT FOR GAMBLING DISORDER



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INTRODUCTION

- The inclusion of Gambling Disorder (GD) as a behavioural addiction (BA) in the DSM-5 is congruent with theoretical models proposing that addictions should be conceptualized by their commonalities rather than differences (Griffiths, 2005).
- These commonalities, or transdiagnostic processes, are thought to underlie SUDs and BA, whereby similar syndromes are proposed to ultimately manifest as distinct addictive disorders (Shaffer et al., 2004).
- Evidence suggests BAs like GD share similar etiological pathways and underlying deficits with that of SUDs (Mutti-Packer et al., 2017).
- Individuals with BAs like GD and SUD evidence deficits in impulse control (Coskunpinar et al., 2013; MacLaren et al., 2011), and comorbid psychiatric conditions like anxiety (Black & Moyer, 1998; Grant et al., 2015; Zimmerman et al., 2006), mood, and personality disorders (Black & Moyer, 1998; Grant et al., 2015).
- Research investigating the transdiagnostic processes BAs and SUDs is in its infancy.

OBJECTIVES

- Investigate the transdiagnostic processes of individuals seeking treatment for GD (N=458) in São Paulo, Brazil.
 - Do those with comorbid BA and SUDs share similar correlates being those related to personality, psychopathology and impulsivity?

MEASURES

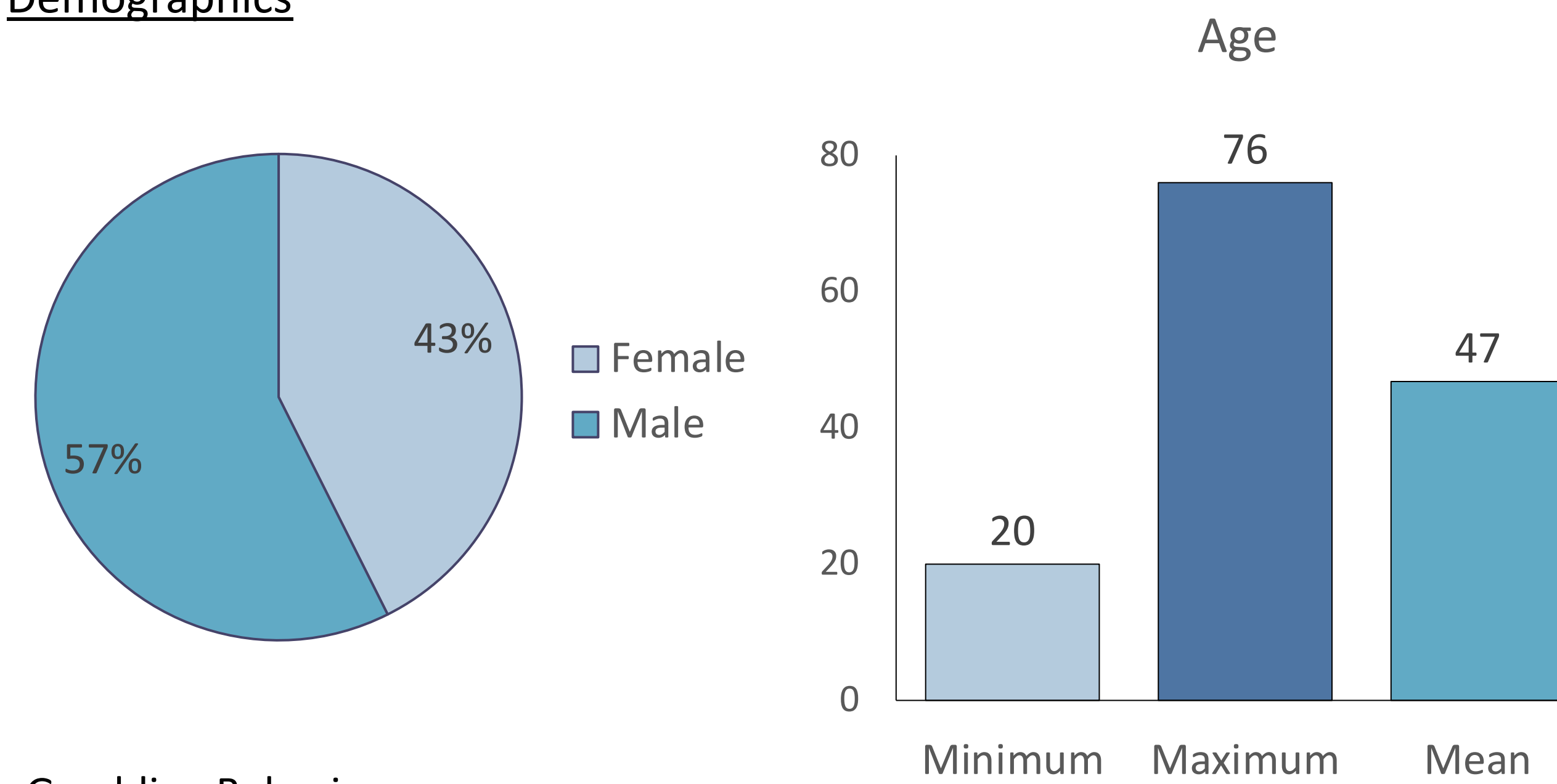
- **Addictive Behaviours:** Short PROMIS Questionnaire (SPQ; Christo et al., 2003).
- **Gambling:** Gambling Symptom Assessment Scale (GSAS; Kim et al., 2009), Gamblers' Beliefs Questionnaire (GBQ; Steenbergh et al., 2002).
- **Psychopathology:** Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II; Beck et al., 1996), Beck Anxiety Inventory (BAI; Beck & Steer, 1993).
- **Personality:** Temperament and Character Inventory (TCI; Cloninger, 1999; Fuentes et al., 2000).
- **Impulsivity:** Barratt Impulsiveness Scale – 11 (BIS-11; Malloy-Diniz et al., 2010; Patton et al., 1995).

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

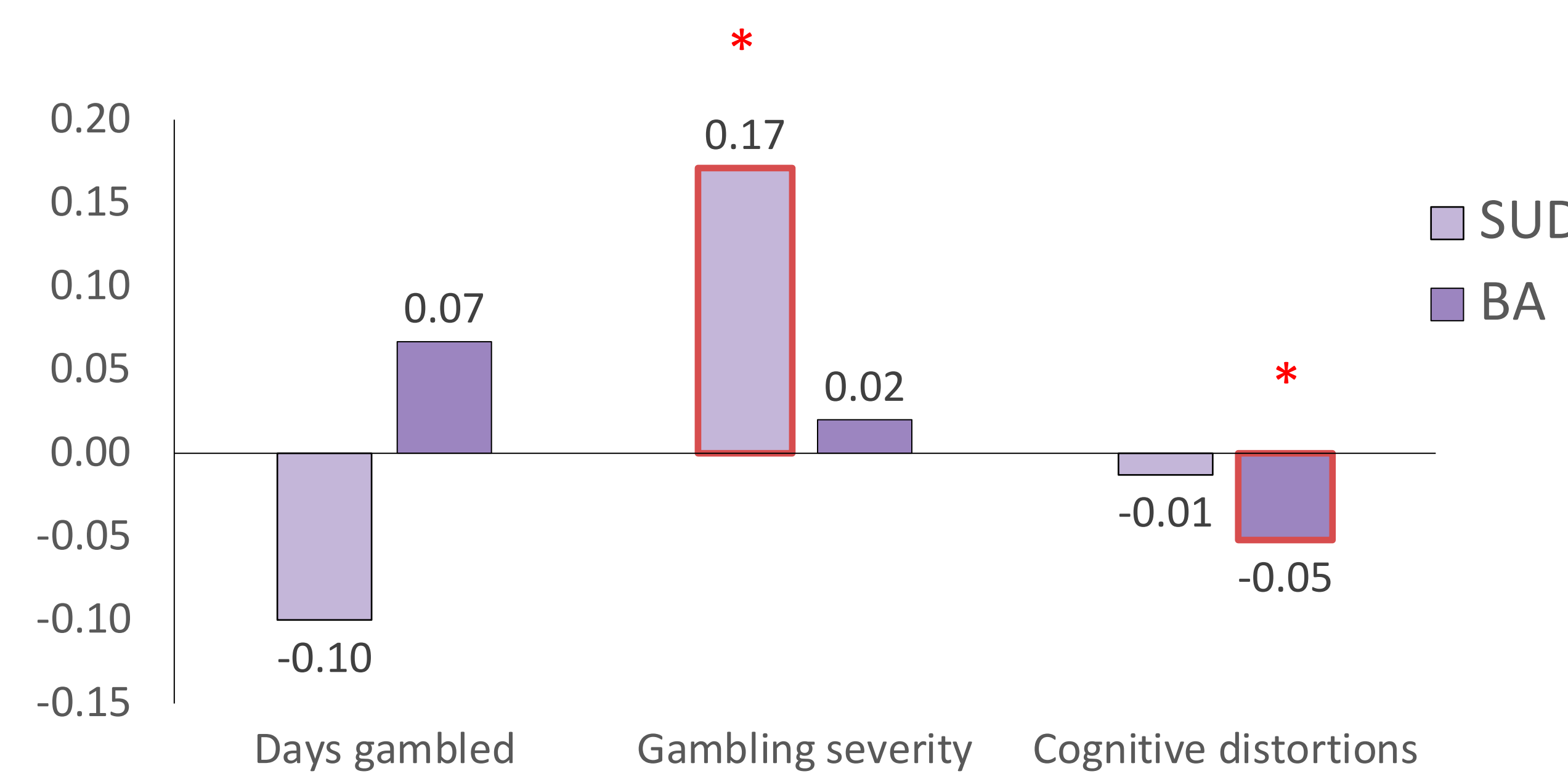
- Composite score of SUDs (alcohol, caffeine, prescription drug, non-prescription drugs, tobacco) and BAs (shopping, binge eating, sex, work, exercise) created using PROMIS scores.
- Separate regression analyses compared those with SUD symptoms and those with BA symptoms.
- Bonferroni corrections were applied.

RESULTS

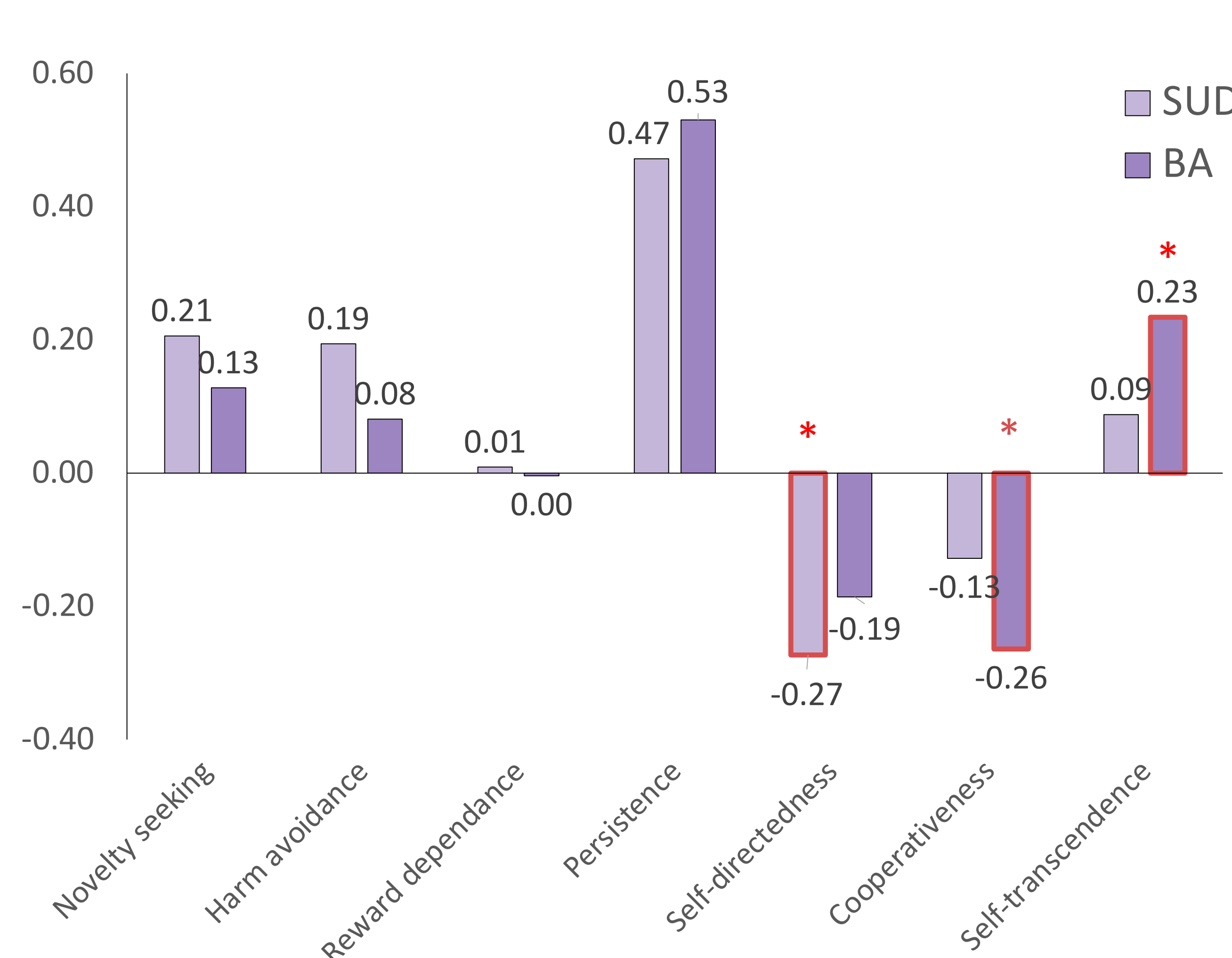
Demographics



Gambling Behaviours



Personality

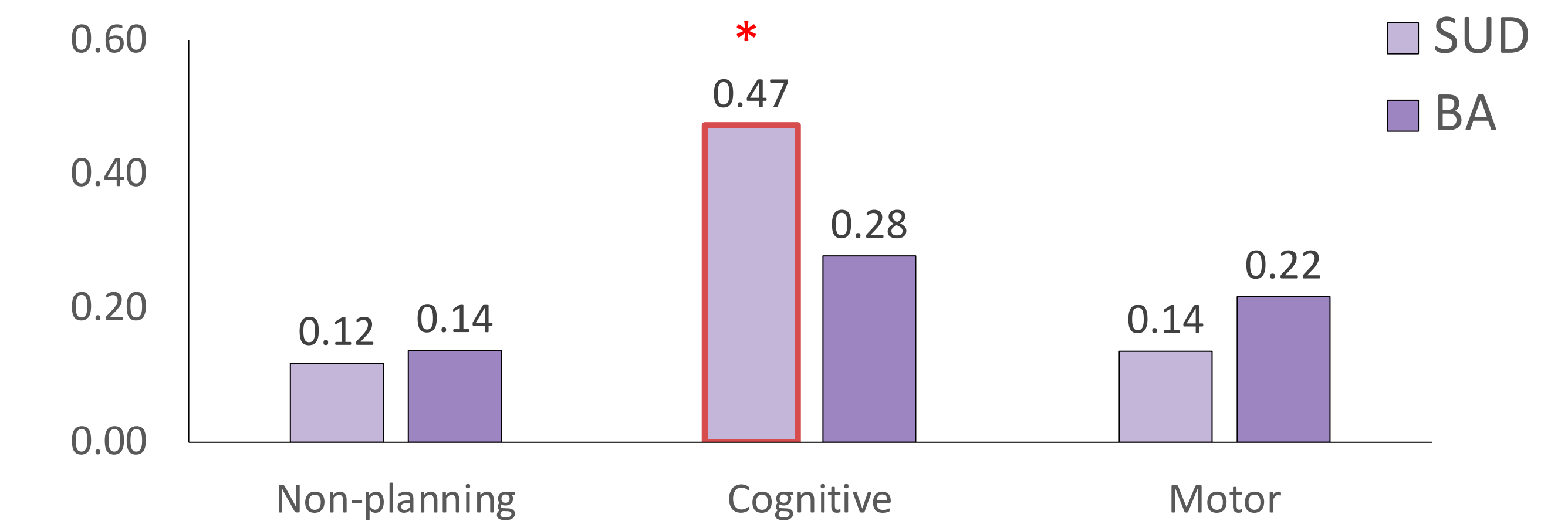


RESULTS

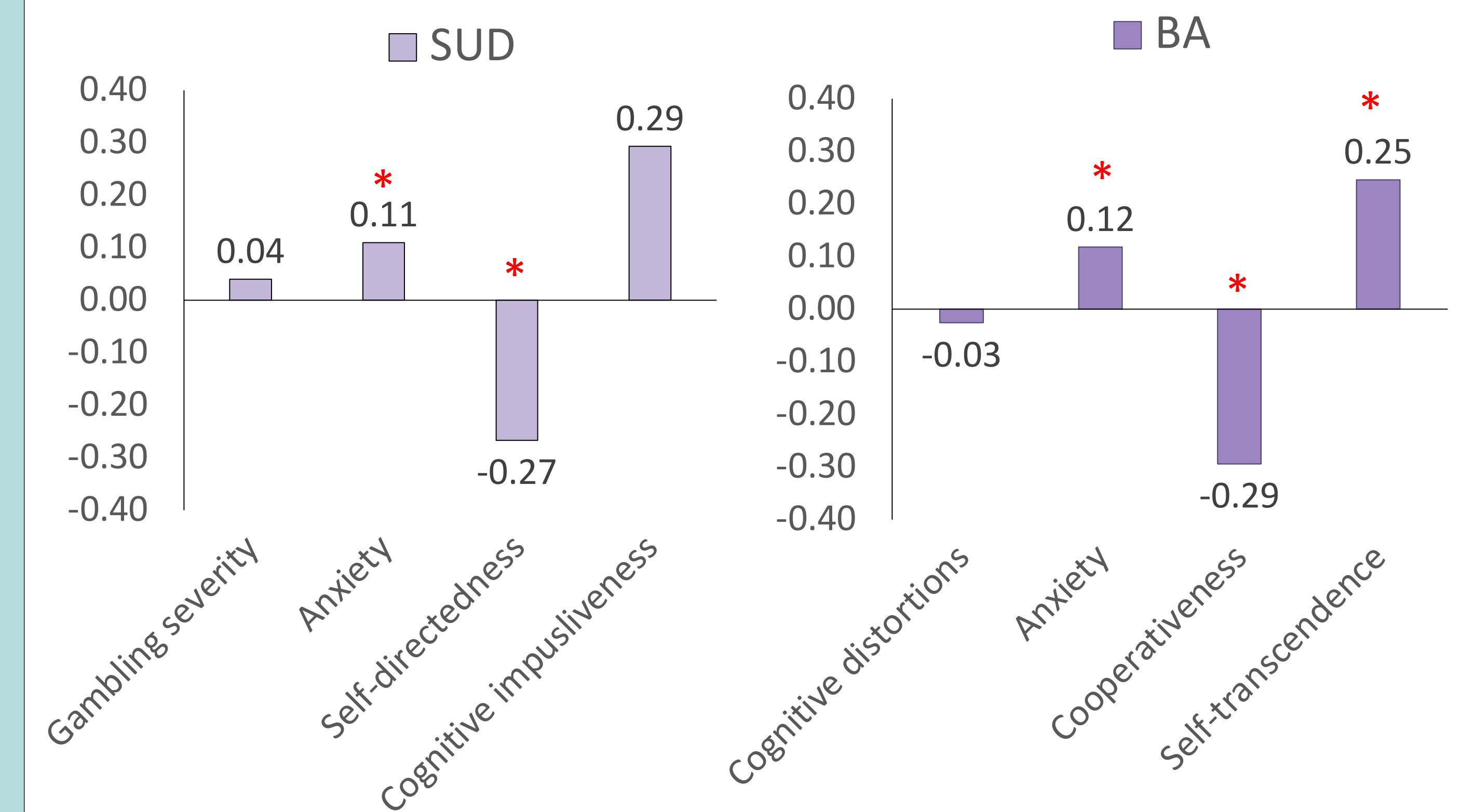
Psychopathology



Impulsivity



Final models



CONCLUSIONS

- Individuals with GD and comorbid BAs and SUDs share common pathways through anxiety, yet also evidence important differences.
- Understanding addictions within a transdiagnostic model may allow for a more effective assessment and treatment process- similar underlying pathologies may be simultaneously targeted in the treatment of multiple addictive disorders (Kim & Hodgins, 2018).