Drug Addiction

Drug addiction and drug abuse
- Drug addiction and drug abuse, chronic or habitual use of any chemical substance to alter states of body or mind for other than medically warranted purposes.
  - Physical dependence
  - Withdrawal
- Addiction: Compulsive nature of the drug use despite physical and/or psychological harm to the user and society and includes both hard and illicit drugs.
- Substance abuse: Frequent and broad range of substances (including alcohol and inhalants) that can fit the addictive profile.

Drug use terms and descriptions
- Drugs in medicine: It refers to any substance with the potential to prevent or cure diseases or enhance physical or mental well-being. In pharmacology, drug refers to any agent that alters the biochemical or physiological processes of tissue or organism.
- Street drug: Drug that is taken for non-medical reasons (usually for mood-altering effects); drug abuse can lead to physical and mental damage and with some substances, dependence and addiction. e.g., Alcohol, heroin, amphetamine, ecstasy, cocaine, and marijuana (Cannabis).
- Street drug: http://www.streaddugs.org

Drug use terms and descriptions
- Hard drug (lead to severe physical addiction):
  - Drugs that are generally considered to be more dangerous, with a higher risk of overdose that will require medical intervention, e.g., heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine.
- Soft drug (do not cause physical addiction):
  - While they do have some physical effects, none of these drugs will lead to psychological dependency. Psychological dependency is a dependence of the mind. This means that people feel better when they have the drug, e.g., benzodiazepines and other drugs.
Drug use terms and descriptions

- Illicit drugs: Any illegal drug, can't prescribed. Eg: Cocaine, heroin, LSD, marijuana.
- Designer drugs: A synthetic drug very similar in chemical makeup to an existing drug and thus looking similar.
- Club drugs: A drug whose use primarily occurs in clubs, bars, and trance parties. Eg: Ecstasy, ketamine.
- Recreational drugs:
  - Psychoactive drugs are those used for non-medicinal purposes, to modify states of consciousness or enhance certain perceptions. Eg: Methamphetamine (psychostimulant of the phenethylamine), that is used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), drive, long distance and obesity.

Types of Abused Substances

- Legal substances:
  - Prescription drugs approved by law for sale over the counter or for a doctor's prescription, include caffeine, nicotine, alcohol, and inhalants (e.g., glue, inhalers, gasoline).

Motivations for Drug Use

- People take drugs for many reasons, and they may take stimulants to keep alert, or to use for the feeling of excitement it provides.
  - To relieve pressure.
  - To increase energy.
  - To relax.
  - To escape reality.
  - To feel more self-esteem, and for motivation.
- Athletes and bodybuilders may take anabolic steroids to increase muscle mass.

Drug use terms and descriptions

- Addictive drugs: drugs that are added to nicotine or enhance the effects of the drug being offered. Example: Nicotine, such as tabacco, or inhaled from the smoke, and pyridine compounds used to increase the yield of the drug sample.
- Stimulants: Compounds such as methamphetamine or caffeine.
- Cocaine: Compounds such as cocaine or amphetamine that are used to increase the yield of the drug sample.

Types of Abused Substances

- Illicit substances:
  - Prescription drugs are considered illegal when diverted from proper use.
  - Morphine, and synthetic cannabinoids, such as marijuana, are most often abused by people in the medical profession, who have easier access to these drugs.
  - Other illicit substances include cocaine and ecstasy, marijuana and hashish, heroin, hallucinogenic drugs such as lysergic acid diethylamide, phenylalanine or "sugar dust", "Designer Drugs" such as MDMA (Ecstasy), and "party drugs" such as GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate).
Effects of Substance Abuse - on individual

- Around 100,000 deaths caused by drug abuse in USA every year.
- Many drug users engage in criminal activity, such as burglary and prostitution, to raise the money to buy drugs, and some drugs, especially alcohol, are associated with violent behavior.
- Cocaine, anxiety, fatigue, depression, and an acute disorder.
- Marijuana and alcohol interfere with motor control and are factors in many automobile accidents.
- Users of marijuana and hallucinogenic drugs may experience flashbacks, unwanted recurrences of the drug's effects weeks or months after use.

Effects of Substance Abuse - on friends and family

- Marital problems and poor work performance.
- Pregnant drug users, because of the drugs themselves or poor self-care in general, bear a much higher rate of low birth-weight babies than the average.

Effects of Substance Abuse - on society

- Drug abuse affects society in many ways.
- In the workplace it is costly in terms of lost work time and inefficiency.
- Drug-related crime can disrupt neighborhoods due to violence among drug dealers, threats to residents, and crimes of the addicts themselves.
- Half of the highway deaths in the United States involve alcohol.

Symptoms

- Recurrent drug use may result in a failure to fulfill major role obligations at work, school, or home.
- Recurrent absences, tardiness, poor performance, suspensions, or neglect of duties in major life domains suggests drug abuse.
- Recurrent drug use in situations in which it is physically hazardous is a sign of abuse.
- Operating machinery, driving a car, swimming, or walking in a dangerous area while under the influence indicates drug abuse.
- Recurrent drug-related legal problems, such as arrests for disorderly conduct or for driving under the influence, are indicative of abuse.
- Recurrent use despite having persistent or recurrent social or interpersonal problems, caused or exacerbated by the effects of the drug, is indicative of abuse.

Spectrum of Psychoactive Substance Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Casual/Non-problematic Use</th>
<th>Chronic Dependence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Beneficial Use</em></td>
<td><em>Chronic Dependence</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Drug that is positive health, personal, or social impact.</td>
<td>- Drug that has negative consequences for individual productivity, or society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- E.g., medical therapeutic, recreational, and occasional use.</td>
<td>- E.g., impaired judgment, impaired social and work life, medical problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Occasional consumption of alcohol.</td>
<td>- Alcohol or other substances used on a daily basis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| - Recreational use of substances. | - Recreational use of substances.

Problematic Use

- Drug that is more negative consequences for individual productivity, or society.
- E.g., impaired judgment, impaired social and work life, medical problems.

- Recreational use of substances.
- E.g., impaired judgment, impaired social and work life, medical problems.
### The main drugs of abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Dependence Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic analgesics</td>
<td>Morphine</td>
<td>Very strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General CNS depressant</td>
<td>Barbiturates</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>Ethanol</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methaqualone</td>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glutethimide</td>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anesthetics</td>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solvents</td>
<td></td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The main drugs of abuse (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Dependence Liability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amphetamine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methadone</td>
<td></td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morphine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Very strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caffeine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norepinephrine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Very strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weak or absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesoline</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weak or absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weak or absent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thank you**