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Exploring of new drug treatment

Research Interests

• INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS

1- Influence of dipyridamole and its combination with NO donor or NO synthase inhibitor on adjuvant arthritis. International Immunopharmacolgy .10,1406-1414 2010

First author

2-Enhancement of the anti-inflammatory and anti-arthritic effects of theophylline by a low dose of a nitric oxide donor or non-specific nitric oxide synthase inhibitor British Journal of Pharmacology. 158, 1835-1847, 2009

First author

3-Dual Effect of nitric oxide donor on adjuvant arthritis International Immunopharmacolgy, 9, 439-447, 2009

First author

4-The immunopotentiator effects of Nefopam, International Immunopharmacolgy 7,266-271, 2007

Recent Publications

Why do people use drugs?

- Brainstorm a list of reasons people give for using drugs.
- What are some of the positive, beneficial or desirable effects that people might experience when using drugs

Some reasons people give for using drugs

- Fun/enhance pleasurable activities/intensify feelings
- Experiment, explore new experiences
- Unwind, cope with stress
- Escape reality, numb feelings
- Deal with emotional pain or discomfort
- Respond to social pressure or norms
- Make social contact easier
- Enhance artistic creativity
- Spiritual or meditative pursuits
- Self-medicate for anxiety, depression, cognitive dysfunction

- What is "addiction"?
- What is "substance abuse"?
- What are the causes of addiction?
- A brief history of the meaning of addiction and substance abuse

KEY CONCEPTS

What is "addiction"?

What is first word that comes to mind if you are asked that question?

varies widely within and across societies
is to some degree culturally determined
is an evolving concept within our society

Models of addiction

- Moral models
- Disease models
- Social models
- Biopsychosocial models

The temperance movement The War on Drugs Moral models of addiction

The 12-Step Movement Biology of addiction Disease models of addiction

The behaviourists The Independent Living Movement Social models of addiction

Biopsychosocial models of addiction

- Determinants of health & disability
- Inclusion of spiritual factors
- Better understanding of interaction of physical, psychological, social & spiritual factors

Addiction: An Integrated Model



Current concepts in understanding meaning of "substance abuse" and "addiction"

Physical dependence

 Drug tolerance
 Withdrawal

 Psychological dependence

- Harm

Physical Dependence

- state in which the body has adapted to the presence of the drug at a particular level
- when the drug concentration falls, withdrawal results

PHYSICAL DEPENDENCE Tolerance

- the need for an increased amount of a given drug to achieve intoxication or desired effect
- or the reduction of a drug's effect with continued use of the same dose over time

PHYSICAL DEPENDENCE Withdrawal

- Occurs when a drug is abruptly removed, or dose is significantly decreased
- Cluster of symptoms often accompanied by directly overt physical signs

Withdrawal ...cont'd

- Withdrawal generally looks opposite to the intoxication.
- Unpleasantness of withdrawal may be so severe that the individual fearing it may use drug again just to avoid or relieve symptoms

Psychological Dependence

- a state in which stopping or abruptly reducing the dose of a drug produces non-physical symptoms
- characterized by emotional and mental preoccupation with the drug's effects and a persistent craving for the drug

Harm

- Central concept in understanding both addiction and substance abuse
- Types of harm:
 - Physical
 - Psychological
 - Social (e.g., family, friends, job, financial, legal system)
 - Spiritual

Abbreviated List of Criteria for Abuse and Dependence

- Preoccupation with substance
- Increased use of substance beyond expected
- Inability to control use
- Withdrawal symptoms
- Signs of tolerance
- Restricted activities
- Impaired functions
- Harmful or hazardous use

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