Methamphetamine (MA) is a drug of abuse of societal concern. Euphoria, increased energy/alertness and enhanced libido all contribute to the appeal, and therefore, abuse of this psychostimulant. Weight loss represents still another attribute of MA as indicated in both human [1-4] and animal [5,6] studies. In fact, weight loss has been reported as a reason for MA use [7-9] and MA under the trademark name Desoxyn, has been approved for use clinically in the treatment of exogenous obesity, as well as for ADHD and narcolepsy [10].

In animal studies, MA has served as an agent to induce neurotoxicity within the Nigrostriatal Dopaminergic (NSDA) system, and thus a means to study conditions that modulate this neurotoxicity. For example, sex, hormonal factors and adrenergic blockers all affect the degree of MA-induced neurotoxicity [11-16]. A summary of the pair wise differences among hormonal factors and adrenergic blockers all affect the degree of MA-induced neurotoxicity [11-16]. A summary of the pair wise differences among these three factors, along with the corresponding changes in body weight present to MA, is illustrated in panels A-C of the figure 1.
from MA. Rephrased as a question: Is Body Weight Loss a Harbinger of Methamphetamine-induced Neurotoxicity?

References


