Drugs and Alcohol Abuse

Commonly abused drugs include opioids, cannabinoids and coca alkaloids obtained from flowering plants and a few from fungi.

Drugs have following effects

Psychotropic

Mood Altering Effect

- Tranquilizers
- Stimulants
- **Opioids**

Psychedelic (mind altering)

Hallucinogenic Effect

- Cannabinoids
- Datura (analgesic, anti-inflammatory, treatment of stomach, intestinal pain & infections of animals with parasitic worms)
- Atropa Belladona (pain reliever, muscle relaxer, and anti-inflammatory)
- LSD (Lysergic Acid Diethylamide)- obtain from ergot of fruiting body fungus- claviceps / purpurea most dangerous hallucinogenic.

Opioids	Cannabinoids	Coca Alkaloid or Cocaine
Obtain from Opium	Obtain from inflorescence of Hemp	Obtained from coca plant
Poppy plant	plant (<mark>Cannabis Sativa</mark>)	Erythroxylum coca, native to
(Papaversomniferum).		South America.
Narcotic		Commonly called coke or crack.
Sedative		Stimulant
Depressant		Euphoriant
Analgesic		Hallucinogenic (in Excess
Euphoriant		amount)
Binds to receptors present in our central	Binds to receptor in brain .	 It interferes with the transport
nervous system and gastrointestinal tract		of the <mark>neuro-transmitter</mark>
(Gut).	OH	dopamine.
Natural Derivative		 Stimulating action on central
Morphine:		nervous system
Sedative	H O V	0
(reduce		N ho
irritability or		
excitement),	Skeletal structure of cannabinoid molecule	
Analgesic (Pain		Cocaine
killer) Used in surgery	A A	_
Osed in surgery	NAA .	Dopamine Dopamine receptor
Codeine: Methyl Morphine		• Cocaine transporter
Used in cough Syrups		
osed in cough syrups		
		Pre-synaptic Synaptic Post-synaptic
		terminal cleft membrane
Synthetic Derivative	Marijuana –Dried female flower	Usually snorted.

Heroin (smack)- diacetylmorphine.

- Is depressant and slows down body functions.
- White, odourless, bitter crystalline compound.
- Brown Sugar by product.
- Extracted from the latex of poppy plant.
- Generally snorted and injected.

Hashish- Resin

Charas- Top inflorescence

Bhang- Fresh Leaves

Ganja- Flower or Fruit (excluding seed)

Taken by inhalation and oral ingestion.

Effects on cardiovascular system.

- Producing a sense of Euphoria and increased energy (stimulants).
- Abused by **Sports person**

- Tranquilizers: Reduce tension, anxiety, bring calmness without inducing sleep.
 - They are anaesthetic, depressant, sleeping drugs.
 - a) Barbiturates -Synthetic drugs used as sleeping pills to reduce anxiety & induce sleep. They are non addictive by lethal if taken with alcohol. Its higher dose frequently used in suicides.
 - **b)** Benzodiazepines (Valum)- Synthetic drugs that slow down brain activity and nervous system by increasing GABA (relaxing neurotransmitter). They're most often used for treating anxiety and related mental health conditions (Schizophrenia), Insomnia, as well as brain-related conditions like seizures (uncontrolled neuron activity causes temporary muscle stiffness/twitching).
- Stimulant: Provide energy & keep awake.
 - a) Amphetamines (Superman drug) Synthetic drug stimulant like cocaine, Anti-sleeping- often used by truck drivers & night workers to keep themselves awake. Its ill effect: Blurred vision, impair judgement, & higher doses caused hallucination.
 - b) Caffeine- Mild stimulant found in leaves of tea, seed of coffee, cocoa plant. Increase alertness, thought.
- Frequent use of hallucinogenic drugs causes impairs one's physical, physiological or psychological function.

Drugs like Barbiturates, amphetamines, benzodiazepines & other drugs used as medicine to help patients cope with mental illness like depression, insomnia and abused.

Tobacco:

- Addictive nature.
- Used by humans more than 400 years.
- Smoked Chewed or Snuff
- Contains Nicotine & alkaloid.
- Nicotine Stimulate Adrenal Gland to release adrenaline & nor adrenaline that increases BP, heart rate & blood glucose level.
- Causes- Cancer of Lung, Urinary Bladder, Mouth, throat, bronchitis, emphysema (lung disease- damage alveoli), Coronary artery disease etc
- Smoking Increase Carbon Monoxide in Blood cause deficiency of O₂.

Adolescence and Drug abuse

- Adolescence is the period (12 18 years) during which the child becomes matured.
- Several Biological, Behavioural changes.
- Vulnerable phase of mental & psychological development.

Causes of drug/ alcohol/smoking abuse -

- Curiosity
- Trying to become cool among peers
- Adventure
- Excitement
- Experimentation
- Escaping from problems.
- Stress or pressure to excel in examination
- TV, Movies, newspapers & internet promotion.
- Unstable or unsupportive family structure or peer pressure.

Addiction & Dependency

- Small dose can be addiction due to Euphoria or temporary feeling of wellness.
- Repeated use can increase tolerance level Receptor respond only to Higher Doses.
- Dependence is the tendency of the body to manifest a characteristic and unpleasant withdrawal syndrome if regular dose of drug/alcohol is abruptly discontinued that includes anxiety, shakiness, nausea and sweating.
- In some cases withdrawal symptoms can be life threatening

Effects of drug/alcohol abuse -

- Reckless (careless) behaviour
- Violence & Vandalism (property destruction)
- Drop in academic performance, Unexplained absence from School/college.
- Lack of interest in personal hygiene.
- Depression, isolation, aggressiveness, fatigue, rebellious behaviour etc.
- Deteriorating relationship with family and friends.
- Loss of interest in hobbies, change in sleeping pattern or eating habits, fluctuation in weight etc.
- Excessive dose could lead to coma or death due to respiratory or heart failure or cerebral haemorrhage.
- Stealing, Mental and Financial distress to family & friends.
- Drugs taken Intravenously can cause infectious disease like AIDs, Hepatitis B.
- Excessive Alcohol causes damage to nervous system & Liver -Cirrhosis.
- Drug or Alcohol during pregnancy causes adverse effect to foetus. Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (low nasal bridge, flat face, thin upper lip etc)

Misuse of drugs by sports persons like narcotic analgesic, anabolic steroids, diuretic (reduce fluid), & certain hormones to increase muscle strength, bulk, promote aggressiveness and performance.

Side effect of Anabolic:

In Females

- Masculinities
- Increase Aggressiveness
- Mood swing
- Depression
- Abnormal Menstrual Cycle
- Excessive hair growth on face & body
- > Enlargement of Clitoris
- Deepening of Voice
- Severe Body & Facial Acne
- Stunted Growth- premature closer of growth centre of long bones

In Males

- Severe Body & Facial Acne
- Increase Aggressiveness
- Mood swing
- Depression
- Reduction of size of testis
- Loss of sexual derive
- Decrease sperm production (Necrospermia)
- Kidney & liver disfunction
- Premature Baldness
- Gynecomastia (Male breast enlargement)
- Enlargement of Prostate Gland
- Stunted Growth- premature closer of growth centre of long bones

Prevention & Control

- Avoid undue peer pressure- unduly performance beyond threshold limits (of studies, sports etc)
- Education & counselling- Accept disappointments & failure as a part of life.
- Seeking helps from parents and peers
- Looking for danger signs- Parents, teachers & friends to look for unusual signs
- Seeking professional and medical help- Psychologist, Psychiatrist or Rehabilitation centre

Que: What is the difference between 1st, 2nd & 3rd generation vaccination?

Ans: Vaccination are based on memory of lymphocytes cells.

1st Generation Vaccines: Developed in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. They were based on live weakened or killed pathogens that were used to stimulate the immune system. Ex: Smallpox vaccine, BCG, and OPV.

1st Generation Vaccine had some limitations like live vaccines could cause severe side effects in some individuals, and killed vaccines did not provide long-lasting immunity.

2nd Generation Vaccines: Developed in the 20th century. They were based on purified subunits of the pathogens or recombinant proteins that could stimulate the immune system. Ex: Hepatitis B vaccine, DPT vaccine.

Safe and more effective & could provide long-lasting immunity and with fewer side effects. However, they required more sophisticated manufacturing processes and were more expensive to produce.

3rd Generation Vaccines: They are still under development & are based on new technologies. These vaccines use genetic material to stimulate the immune system. It include mRNA vaccines and DNA vaccines. Ex: Hepatitis-B Vaccine. They have the potential to provide long-lasting immunity with fewer side effects.