

This study examines the relationship between drug of choice, personality, psychopathology and early termination from treatment in substance abusing clients. One hundred subjects were given the MCMI and the SCL-90R after a standard clinical intake interview in which demographic and drug use information was obtained. Results revealed generally high levels of psychopathology. There were few differences among the four types of substance abusers (marijuana, opiate, cocaine and amphetamine), namely, marijuana users were significantly younger while amphetamine abusers manifested high scores on the interpersonal sensitivity, hostility, paranoia and psychoticism of the SCL-90. The amphetamine abusers with high levels of subjective distress were the clients least likely to return after the intake interview. Mandated clients, even with high scores on the MCMI's Antisocial Scale, were the most likely to return as were clients who scored high on the MCMI's psychotic thinking and paranoid scale. The results of this study support thorough, individualized assessment of substance abusers as part of the employment of individually tailored treatment plans.

A PSYCHO-SOCIAL VIEW OF "CRACK" IN NEW YORK CITY Blanch Frank, Alan Kott, Gregory Rainone and Michael Maranda NY State Division of Substance Abuse Services, New York

Crack, a smokable form of cocaine, has had a rapid rise in popularity in New York City over the past year. Given the intense effects of the drug and this mode of administration, a three-part study was undertaken to assess the impact of the Crack phenomenon. First, this paper describes general findings about Crack use and its consequences from a survey of New York City residents. Second, an ethnographic study of active Crack users in major coping areas and in "base" and Crack houses is discussed. Finally, the results of a study of Crack users in treatment are presented with recommendations for treatment.

CRACK ABUSE AND SUICIDE IS THERE A CORRELATION? George DeLeon and Nancy Jauchill Phoenix House Foundation, New York

The dramatic shift in drug preference to cocaine and crack use in recent years has important implications for diagnosis and treatment. This study reports preliminary findings on the prevalence of suicide attempts among substance abusers admitted to long term residential therapeutic community treatment. Comparisons across primary drug groups reveal that crack abusers have a significantly higher rate of suicide attempts. These findings stress the need to identify psychological and psychopharmacological factors in cocaine associated behavioral problems.

EFFECTS OF INHALED NICOTINE VAPOR FROM SMOKELESS CIGARETTES R. Nemeth-Coslett and Jack E. Henningfield Addiction Research Center, Baltimore, MD, and Samantha McBride Johns Hopkins University

Multiple physiologic measures and subject ratings were

collected from seven volunteer cigarette smokers during 4 hour test sessions to assess the effects of smokeless cigarettes (SLC). Subjects inhaled nicotine vapor through the mouth piece of a manifold that simultaneously held 4 SLCs. The dose conditions were either 0, 1, 2, or 4 standard SLCs mounted in the manifold. Depending on the nicotine dose condition, either 4, 3, 2 or 0 denicotinized SLCs, respectively, were also mounted in the manifold. Subjects were instructed to inhale according to standard procedures. The main finding was that subjects reliably differentiated placebo from all active doses. Ratings of the similarity of the SLC to tobacco cigarettes, as well as positive and negative effects, were also dose related. Desire to smoke was significantly decreased after inhaling from the SLC but recovered to baseline within 30 min. Changes in blood pressures were not significantly affected, however, changes in heart rate were significantly increased in a dose-related manner.

COGNITIVE, SUBJECTIVE AND PHYSIOLOGIC EFFECTS OF NICOTINE IN NONSMOKERS Frederick R. Snyder, R. Nemeth-Coslett, Laurence P. Shanet and Jack Henningfield NIDA/Addiction Research Center

Sixteen healthy nonsmokers, 9 males and 7 females, were each administered 3 doses of nicotine gum—0, 2, and 4 mg—in an ascending order. Subjective, physiologic and cognitive measures were obtained prior to and after each dose administration. Although no statistically significant effects were observed on the obtained measures of information processing, the group data showed a trend toward increasing response times (impairment) with increasing doses of nicotine. All physiologic parameters—systolic and diastolic blood pressure, heart rate and skin temperature—showed a significant response to 4 mg nicotine gum, and systolic blood pressure and skin temperature were significantly affected by the 2 mg dose as well. Nonsmokers detected the active doses of nicotine as compared to placebo, drug liking scores were not affected. Interestingly, MBG scale scores (a measure of euphoria) showed a significant increase in the 4 mg condition which contrasts to results with smokers who typically show no change on this measure under similar conditions. Results are discussed with regard to individual differences, tolerance, and possible factors relevant to the effects of nicotine on aspects of information processing.

PAPER SESSION

Methylphenidate in Children

Saturday August 29, 1987 • 1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Marriott Marquis Hotel • Majestic Room

Chair: Mark D. Rapport, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, State University of New York at Stony Brook

DOSE-RESPONSE EFFECTS OF METHYLPHENIDATE ON IMPULSIVITY IN CHILDREN WITH ADDH Mark D. Rapport State University of New York at Stony Brook, Gary Stoner University of Massachusetts

The present investigation examined the effects of methylphenidate (MPH) on impulsivity in children with Attention Deficit Disorder/Hyperactivity (ADDH) in school and on their Matching Familiar Figures test (MFFT) performance in