

Pharmacological Interactions of Ethanol with Selected Illegal Substances of Abuse



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SUMMARY: *The popularity of ethanol in the countries of Central Europe is traditionally very high and its total consumption has exhibited minimal fluctuations in recent decades. On the other hand, the availability and popularity of psychotropic substances of abuse have been increasing constantly, among drinkers too, since the markets of the post-communist countries, including the Czech Republic, opened up. The easy availability of ethanol is very likely to increase the chances of people addicted to illegal psychotropic substances combining them with ethanol very often. This work is focused on describing the interaction of ethanol with amphetamines, cannabinoids, cocaine, LSD, and NMDA receptor antagonists. Interactions are evaluated from a pharmacological point of view and the results of these combinations are compared in terms of the risks or „benefits“ to the user.*

KEY WORDS: ETHANOL – INTERACTION – DRUG ADDICTION – SUBSTANCES OF ABUSE

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