Drugs and their effects

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Vocab and Key Terms

- Drug
- Toxic Reactions
- Dose/Response Relationship
- Threshold
- Therapeutic Effect
- Adverse Drug Reactions
- Potency
- Affinity
- Efficacy
- Effective Dose
- Lethal Dose
- Quantity/Quality/Purity
Therapeutic Effect & Dose/Response Relationship

Each drug will have their own Dose/Response relationship. This is simply the relationship between the amount of a substance that is taken and its effect.

**Therapeutic Effect** is the desirable effect of a drug.
Threshold & Potency

Depending on a Drug and user, a person’s threshold will vary.

The potency of a drug will dictate the Dose/Response Relationship.
Potency Breakdown

- Affinity is the drug’s effectiveness to bind to the brain’s dopamine receptors.
- Efficacy is the Drug’s stimulatory power on the receptor

Effective Dose: A Dose required to produce a particular effect

Lethal Dose: A Dose required to kill a particular proportion of the recipients
The Effects of a Drug

Adverse Drug Reactions: The “other effects” that a drug gives off.

Ex. Increase/Decrease of energy and amplified/suppress hunger

Toxic Reactions: Reactions that can cause either extremely harmful or deadly.

Idiosyncratic reactions: Reactions that are highly unusual (which means that they are reactions that is unique to the user.)
Quantity/Quality/Purity

Quantity/Quality/Purity: The amount of the drug is in one dose.

These are one of the most important factors that dictates the Doses, Effects and Potency.

The biggest factor that is associated to the Quantity/Quality/Purity of a drug is where it is acquire. Pharmacies will produce better quality drugs with higher purity levels. Street drugs, however, are made under no parameters and guidelines. This can cause the drug to be either weak or very strong.
Source

Substance Abuse Counseling, Chapter 2. (Factors that affect a Drug’s effect)

https://youtu.be/b6Dte96WdqM: Drug Abuse, Causes, Signs and Symptoms, Diagnosis and Treatment

Google images