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Editor Note

Addiction is a chronic condition, where a person engages him or her in activities, which can be pleasure giving but in long term continuation of the same becomes compulsive. The person becomes unable to quit the addiction, despite of its harmful consequences. Alcoholism and drug dependence are two such kinds of addiction, where the person becomes addicted to alcohol consumption or any harmful type of drug. It results in physical and mental disorder. Alcoholism is also known as alcohol use disorder (AUD) and can be mild, moderate or severe. In many people a habit eventually becomes addiction and they losses control over their habit. Journal of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence deals with publishing recent research and findings on the aspects of alcohol, drugs and its dependence. Volume 5, Issue 6 of this journal includes articles on social context, adverse impact and complications, coping strategies, policies for illegal consumption.

Levi-Minzi et al. [1], in their study have examined the effect of social context on misuse of prescription opioid (PO) and learning different routes of consumption or inhalation. Alternative routes of administration include snorting, injecting and smoking, which make a more rapid release of the drug. The use of alternate routes has been increase the progression of drug dependence and addiction. In this study, the authors have studied how the social context is having impact on the progression. This study suggests that formation of new strategies to prevent and address the problem is the need of the time. Educating youth about the risk factors associated with the use of POs and on increased risk of developing dependence with alternate routes of administration may be included in rehabilitation strategies.

According to literature, alcohol consumption and dependence in somatic patients is the most common comorbidity. In fact the prevalence of alcohol dependence in hospitals is more than in general populations. Despite epidemiological indications, alcohol dependence is left undiagnosed, which increases the risk of resistance to therapy and mortality rate. It is equally important to treat alcohol dependence in somatic patients. Pakriev [2] studied the prevalence and the associated risk factors of alcohol dependence in somatic patients in municipal hospitals. This study reveals the importance of development and implementation for recommending diagnosis, treatment and prevention of alcohol use by patients in municipal hospitals.

Diabetes Mellitus, a metabolic disorder characterized by hyperglycemia occurs due to lack of insulin in the cells. This may be due to defect in insulin producing cells or defect in insulin receptors. Uncontrolled diabetes may lead to several complications among which Diabetes Nephropathy affects kidneys and causes renal malfunctioning. Parwanj and Mandal [3], in their study have demonstrated the relation between diabetes mellitus and increasing risk of developing diabetes. Excessive consumption of alcohol leads to the development of Advanced Glycation End Products (AGEP).

Formation of AGEPs increases the risk of oxidative stress and deteriorates the conditions of the cells. This in turn, leads to the development of insulin resistance and causes diabetes mellitus.

Rohit et al. [4] conducted a study to find out coping strategies to avoid alcohol craving and prevent relapse of AUD. Successful adaptive coping strategies can help patients with cravings among alcohol dependent patients. Combination of emotion and avoidance oriented strategies must be implemented to achieve maximum benefit. Strategies such as self-regulation, problem solving and avoidance are the main strategies which must be incorporated in the main treatment objectives. Depending on the personality, strategies must be varied as same strategy does not fit all. Mix strategies must be emphasized in patients with high risk to develop cravings.

Fernandez Sola and Estruch [5] have made a review study on alcohol cardiomyopathy (ACM), which is a chronic heart disease with a decrease in the left ventricular ejection fraction. It is a common pathology in among one fourth of severe alcoholism. The ethanol affects the myocardium in dose dependent manner. Cardiac cells get adapted to ethanol aggression and finally lead to dilation of heart chambers. In such cases, complete alcohol prevention is preferable for the recovery of left ventricle function but control drinking may be allowed. New preventive strategies and therapies are developing to decrease alcohol mediated myocardial damage and increase protective and repair mechanisms.

Razvodovsky [6] estimated the recent alcohol taxation and pricing policies in the prevention of unrecorded alcohol consumption in Russia. The recent pricing policies and excise tax made alcohol more expensive in Russia. It created an inverse effect in alcohol consumption. The rising price of legal alcohol leads to the increasing demand for unrecorded alcohol. The on-going economic crisis and the rising price both have generated increasing demand for unrecorded alcohol. This finding suggests that emphasis on the urgency of implementing new alcohol consumption policies is required. These policies must include tight control on alcohol production and its distribution, laws against illegal production and public awareness programs on the harmful effects of these products.

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