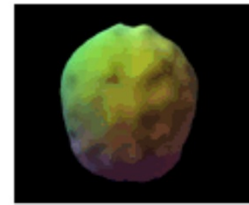


ADDICTION FACTS - NEED TO KNOW

SUBSTANCE ABUSE - is the use of any substance to the extent that it causes physical, mental or emotional damage that is either temporary or permanent.

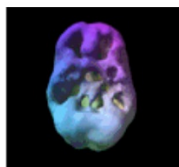
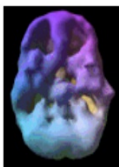
ADDICTION - is a lasting and persistent brain disorder, that is treatable. People lack control for their need for alcohol or drugs.

Normal
Brain



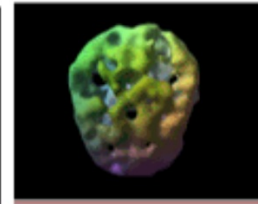
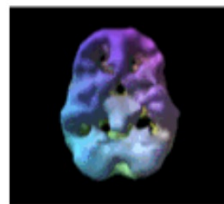
Normal view

Brain from marijuana abuse



18 y/o - 3 year history of 4 x week use 16 y/o - 2 year history of daily abuse

Brain from alcohol abuse



PHYSICAL ADDICTION - body is dependent on the abused substance to function



PSYCHOLOGICAL ADDICTION - mind/brain is overcome by desire to have the substance abused

TOLERANCE - need for more of the drug or harder drug to get "high".



WITHDRAWAL - symptoms occur when the body and/or brain crave the abused substance (shaking, vomiting, headache, diarrhea, sweating)

SIGNS OF POSSIBLE DRUG ABUSE

1) BEHAVIORAL

- *changes in behavior or personality
- *lying, cheating
- *attention-getting behavior
- *denial of any problems

2) PHYSICAL

- *poor coordination
- *changes in appearance
- *slurred speech

3) SOCIAL

- *friends suspected of abusing drugs**
- *withdrawal from normal activities/friends**
- *poor school performance**

RISK FACTORS THAT CAN PROTECT OR INFLUENCE DRUG ABUSE:

- 1) FAMILY**
- 2) SOCIAL (friends, role models)**
- 3) PERSONAL (example - stress)**

THE 4 STAGES OF ADDICTION

STAGE ONE:

MISUSES OF SUBSTANCES

- a) emotional and mental addiction**
- b) feels the need, comfort or excitement from the substance and becomes uncomfortable without it.**
- c) begins to experience the negative effects in their relationships, work and health.**



STAGE TWO:

ABUSE OF SUBSTANCES

- a) change in dealing with life and personal relationships**
- b) cravings for abused substance develops**
- c) legal consequences**
- d) makes excuses for drug use/hides abuse**



STAGE THREE: DEPENDENCY

- a) tolerance is developed**
- b) mind and/or body becomes used to the drug and needs more for the same relief/high.**
- c) abuser withdraws further from loved ones**
- d) makes excuses, minimizes problems and blames others.**



STAGE FOUR:

FINAL STAGE OF ADDICTION

- a) physical symptoms when withdrawing**
- b) tolerance now means the abuser needs to drink or use more stronger drugs to not only get high but also to prevent withdrawal**
- c) physical and mental health deteriorates**
- d) personal relationships and finances deteriorates**

