Poisonings due to Substance Abuse Reported to the Poisons Information Centre Erfurt

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Objective: Development of drug abuse

- Evaluation of poisoning cases in four eastern German federal states caused by substance abuse from 2000 - 2009 (ethanol excluded)

Number of poisoning cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total number of cases</th>
<th>Abuse of single drug</th>
<th>Abuse of several drugs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender: Male : Female ~ 3 : 1

Trends of abused drugs

- Amphetamines
- Cocaine
- Cannabis
- Heroin

Trends of abused drugs

- Brugmansia and Datura species
- Liquid Ecstasy (GHB/GBL)

Severity of poisoning cases

Relative frequencies of symptom severity in poisonings due to drugs of abuse and all exposures

Significant differences (p < 0.05)
Severity of poisoning cases

Cases of death

Conclusions

Many thanks for your attention

Dr. Hentschel, GGI Erfurt - 0361-730730 Wednesday 25 May 2011 Elafiti 3 + 4

Severity of poisoning cases

Poisoning cases of abuse with severe symptoms

Cases of death

- Caused by single drug abuse of
  - Amphetamine derivatives: 4
  - Sniffing (Propane/Butane): 3
  - Sniffing (Chloroform): 1
  - Cocaine: 1
  - Argyreia nervosa (?): 1
- Caused by multiple drug abuse of
  - Amphetamine derivatives and Cocaine: 2

Conclusions

- Toxicovigilance of poisoning cases caused by drug abuse are helpful for
  - detection of consumption tendencies,
  - risk assessment of new drugs, and
  - recognition of hazardous consumption patterns.

Many thanks for your attention

Poison Emergency Call Erfurt
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