

Drugs addiction and scientific research

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Bhat SA. Drugs addiction and scientific research. *Addict Clin Res* 2017;1(1):8.

EDITORIAL

The illicit use of drugs throughout the globe is a concern for every community. Apart from the cost, it inflates the state economy; the human costs of the illicit drugs are horrible. The picture seems more dismal while taking the statistics provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) into consideration. According to the 2017 report produced by UNODC, Globally, there is an estimated minimum of 190,000-in most cases avoidable premature deaths from drugs, the majority attributable to the use of opioids. Around 5 percent of the global adult population used drugs at least once in 2015. Even more worrisome is the fact that about 29.5 million of those drug users, or 0.6 percent of the global adult population, suffer from drug use disorders. People experience withdrawal symptoms once they stop taking these drugs because of drug dependence. The amount of destruction that drug abuse causes on human life is horrible as it has been estimated that 28 million years of life has been spoiled by drug abuse and 17 million years due to substance-related disorders in 2015. The number of deaths due to drug abuse or overdose of drugs worldwide, United States of America accounts for approximately 1 out of 4 deaths due to substance abuse or overdose. Disorders related to the use of amphetamines account for a considerable share of the global burden of disease attributable to drug use disorders, second only to those related to the use of opioids.

The impact of drug abuse on the health is also shocking and scary as seen in the related cases of HIV, Hepatitis, and tuberculosis. It was estimated in 2012 that around 162-324 million people corresponding to between 3.5 percent and 7.0 percent of the world population had used an illicit drug at least once in a previous year between the ages of 15-64. With nearly 18% of the world's population in the 15-64 age groups, India is a prime market for illicit opiates originating in both South-East Asia and South-West Asia, according to the World Drug Report 2014. The data presented by National Crime Records Bureau before the upper house of Indian parliament Rajya Sabha in 2016 revealed that every day in India 10 drug or alcohol-related suicides deaths are reported. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, there were 3,647 such suicide cases in India in 2014, of which Maharashtra reported the highest, at 1,372.

“Journal of Addiction and Clinical Research” is an endeavour in this direction to know in depth the problem of addiction of the illicit drugs. The journal aims at publishing high-quality research articles pertaining to drug addiction throughout the globe. There are various critical areas related to addiction that need to be addressed and I hope this journal will work more energetically towards its goal of research in the area Addiction and scientific research. It gives me immense pleasure to be the part of this great initiative. The journal will surely encourage the latest research and innovation. I wish the entire team of this journal very successful journey and best of luck.

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Received: October 28, 2017, Accepted: November 03, 2017, Published: November 08, 2017



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