LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of the chapter, the student will be able to:

1. List the various ways in which the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs impacts adversely on our society, both personally and economically.
2. Differentiate between physical dependence and addiction to drugs and other substances.
3. Describe the extent of abuse of various substances by different groups of persons and the recent trends in drug abuse.
4. Recognize the signs and symptoms associated with the abuse of the CNS depressants, including benzodiazepines, carisoprodol, and the opiates.
5. Recommend appropriate treatment for abuse and dependence on the various CNS depressants.
6. Compare and contrast crack cocaine and powdered cocaine in terms of chemistry, pharmacologic effects, onset, and duration of action.
7. Recognize the signs and symptoms of abuse of CNS stimulants such as cocaine and methamphetamine.
8. Compare the chemistry, pharmacology, and toxicology of synthetic cathinone derivatives.
9. Teach young persons the long-term dangers associated with the recreational use of the drug MDMA (Ecstasy).
10. List the adverse health consequences of marijuana use.
11. Define tolerance, dependence, and withdrawal from the various drugs of abuse, and discuss appropriate pharmacotherapy for dealing with dependence and withdrawal from each type of drug.
12. Explain how drugs get diverted from legal to illegal supplies and the magnitude of the problem of drug diversion.
13. Explain the concept of rapid opiate detoxification for a specific patient.
14. Outline the circumstances under which office-based opiate detoxification and maintenance would be appropriate using buprenorphine.
15. Advise other health professionals and lay persons on the dangers associated with abuse of nonprescription cough medicines and especially dextromethorphan.