

# The symptoms of anxiety. researches have also

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The Affect of Sugar on Mood Introduction: Can sugar really make you happy? When sugar is consumed, then the mood will increase. When sugar is consumed, blood sugar peaks.

Glucose, a type of sugar, helps provide energy for most cells in the body. Nerve cells are included in that category. Nerve cells take up half of the energy for sugar in the body. Therefore, glucose levels and brain function, like memory and learning, are very closely related. When the body's glucose levels are low, energy is low. So, when sugar is consumed, then energy levels will increase. Increased energy levels will lead to a happier mood.

While doing this controlled experiment, 10 test subjects rated their mood on a scale of 1-5 before and after the consuming the sugar. An independent variable is the object that is different or changed between the experimental and control groups. It is the factor that is being tested. The independent variable of the experiment was sugar.

The sugar used in the experiment was a Pixy Stix. One Pixy Stix includes about 2.14 grams of sugar. Sugar has been known to be harmful to mental health. Researchers have found when there is an abundant sugar consumption the risk of depression and other mental illness.

Sugar was also found to lead to addiction over time. It has also been found that sugar can worsen symptoms of anxiety. Researches have also found the sugar can decrease cognitive learning abilities. Some of the cognitive learning abilities is decreases are memory and learning.

The sugar, when used in this experiment, will only be given to the experimental group and not the control group. The dependent variable is the object that is measured out of the experiment. It depends on the independent variable. The dependent variable of the experiment was a mood scale. The mood scale measured the test subject's mood before the experiment started and after it ended. It was a range of 1-5. The highest number, 5, on the scale represented the happiest mood while the lowest number, 1, represented the saddest mood.

The middle number, 3, is expressed as neutral. However, number 2 on the mood scale defines a mood between neutral and sad. And number 4 on the mood scale represented a mood between happy and neutral. The mood scale showed the difference that the independent variable would have on the test subjects. The independent variable and the dependent variable come together in the experiment to become the focus of the experiment. In the experiment the dependent variable is the mood scale and the independent variable is the sugar. That means that the mood scale is dependent on the sugar. When the test subjects are given the sugar, they must rate their mood based on the sugar.

Sugar has been linked to the brain and how it functions. This means the mood scale is affected by sugar because sugar affects the brain which affects how you create emotions. This experiment's overall goal was to prove that sugar can increase your mood. During this experiment the control group rated their mood 1-5 and waited 30 minutes and rated their mood another time. The experimental group rated their mood, ate a Pixy Stix and waited 30

minutes and rated their mood again. This experiment will help scientist in discovering if sugar really does affect mental health and mood.

**Methods:** For this experiment to be conducted, there were a total of 10 subject. Then there was a total of 30 Pixy Stix. The test subjects were each given 3 Pixy Stix and a paper that gave instructions and for them to record results. First, the test subjects recorded their mood 1-5. Next, they ate the Pixy Stix and waited 30 minutes. During those 30 minutes the test subjects did not consume any food.

After the 30 minutes was up, the test subjects recorded their mood. The test subjects did this a total of 3 times to complete the 3 trials needed for the experimental group. For the control group, the same 10 test subjects were used. They recorded their mood 1-5 and waited 30 minutes.

During this 30 minutes they did not consume anything at all. After the 30 minutes was up they, recorded their mood 1-5. **Results:** After looking at the results of the experiment, one should see that the mood of the test subject's mood increased significantly more in the experimental group than the control group.

The average mood increase of the experimental group was 1.2, while the average increase in mood for the experimental group was 0.1. It is also interesting to see that the experimental groups mood increased to a 4 or 5, with only increasing to a 3 one time, and the control group increased to mostly 3 and 4's with one increase to a 5 and to a 2. The mood of the test subjects in the experimental group always increased or stayed the same. But

in the controlgroup, subject's moods increased, stayed the same, and decreased.

The moods ofthe test subjects in the experimental group were a lot more positive than theones of the control group. Control Group Subjects Trial 1

Trial 2 Trail 3 Initial Mood Mood After 30 minutes Difference of Mood

Initial Mood Mood After 30 minutes Difference of Mood Initial Mood Mood

After 30 minutes Difference of Mood 1 4 4 0 3 3 0 4 3 -1 2 5 5 0 4 4 0 3 4 +1

3 2 3 +1 3 3 0 2 3 +1 4 3 3 0 2 3 +1 4 4 0 5 4 4 0 3 3 0 4 4 0 6 3 3 0 2 3 +1

3 3 0 7 4 4 0 5 3 -1 2 2 0 8 3 3 0 4 4 0 5 4 -1 9 2 3 +1 4 4 0 3 3 0 10 3 3 0 4

4 0 2 3 +1 Average: +0. 2 +0. 1 +0. 1 Table 1: To find the difference

of the moods beforeand after 30 minutes, is calculated by subtracting the

initial mood by the moodafter 30 minutes. Then all the differences of moods

were added together anddivided by 10 to find the average increase/decrease

in mood. The sum of thedifferences of mood was divided by 10 because

there were ten pieces of data. Experimental Group Subjects Trial 1 Trial 2

Trail 3 Initial Mood Mood After 30 minutes Difference of Mood Initial Mood

Mood After 30 minutes Difference of Mood Initial Mood Mood After 30

minutes Difference of Mood 1 4 5 +1 3 4 +1 2 4 +2 2 3 4 +1 4 4 0 3 3 0 3 3

4 +1 2 5 +3 3 4 +1 4 4 4 0 3 4 +1 2 4 +2 5 4 5 +1 4 5 +1 3 5 +2 6 3 4 +1 4

5 +1 3 5 +2 7 3 5 +2 4 4 0 2 4 +2 8 3 4 +2 4 5 +1 5 5 -1 9 3 4 +1 3 5 +2 4

5 +1 10 2 4 +2 4 4 0 3 5 +2 Average: +1.

2 +1. 2 +1. 3 Table 2: To find the difference of the moods beforethe

sugar was consumed and after 30 minutes, is calculated by subtracting the

initialmood by the mood after 30 minutes. Then all the differences of moods

were addedtogether and divided by 10 to find the average increase/decrease

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in mood. The sum of the differences of mood was divided by 10 because there were ten pieces of data.

Mood Scale # Meaning 1 Angry 2 Grumpy 3 Neutral 4 Happy 5 Ecstatic

Bar Graph: The bar graph shows the average of increase in mood for each trial. One can look at the graph and easily see that the control group has a very small increase in mood, but the experimental group has a much larger increase in mood. Discussion: The overall goal of this experiment was to prove that sugar can increase mood. The experimental groups average increase in mood was 1.2 and the average for the control group was 0.1.

That's a 1.1 increase. Therefore, the overall goal was proven to be correct. The results also showed that the increase of the experimental group was mostly 4 or 5s. While, the control groups increase was mostly 3 and 4s. The experimental group had a more positive outcome. The hypothesis was proven by the results. The results show that the experimental group had more of an increase in mood than the control group.

Sugar is a dopamine. A dopamine is a "feel-good" chemical in the brain. It activates a reward center in the brain. And overtime, with addictive eating habits, it can change how the brain functions. It is important to know this data because it can help prove that sugar is not as bad and doesn't lead to many issues with the brain. This experiment is relevant to the scientific community because it can help prove that sugar may not be as bad as scientists think. Currently, scientists think that sugar is as addictive as some drugs, but researchers can now use this experiment to test and see if it is really that bad.

They can do this many more times than just once and see how the results change over time. This experimental could maybe change the course of what they have found. Scientist will be able to track how sugar affects mood in short and long-term situations. Some potential modifications that could be made to this experiment is not letting the test subjects do this on their own. During this experiment, the test subjects may have forgotten that they could not eat in the 30-minute waiting period.

They could have also done the experiment all in one day, when it was supposed to be done in 6 days. A way to fix this problem is to sit the test subjects down one by one and do the experiment and watch them record their results. Some other modification that could be made to this experiment are the use of more sugar or a different waiting period. This could make for more accurate results in the experiment and seeing how sugar affects mood in different amounts of sugar and time. Work Cited (Documentation): (n. d.). WebMD - Better information. Better health.

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ScienceAlert: The Best in Science News and Amazing Breakthroughs. Watch: This is how sugar affects your brain.

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