

Effect of drugs on the brain

Science



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Effect of drugs on the brain Drugs make a negative impact on the brain. To understand the effects of drug on the brain, it is first essential to understand the construction and the working of the brain. Brain comprises of various cells connected together called as the neurons. It is the communication or the transfer of information between these neurons that makes it possible for the brain to perform the various functions (thinking, reacting, doing, sensing, etc) that it does. It is this communication between the neurons where the drugs make an impact. The communication between neurons is made possible by the neurotransmitters and receptors. Drugs interfere with the functioning of the brain by acting on the neurotransmitters. Some drugs enhance the communication while other drugs interfere with information transfer and hence make the response slower. Inhibitory transmitters become inhibitorier and excitatory transmitters become excitatory. In most cases the natural effects of the transmitters are lessened or completely eliminated. Various drugs result in various effects. As an effect of the drug, brain cells become dependent on it to an extent that its consumption becomes the sole purpose of life. Certain cells are destroyed by the consumption of drugs. Even though reconnection or repair is possible, original state is not attained. Decision making, judgment, control of emotions, problem solving, learning abilities, moods, vision and memory (both short-term and long-term) are compromised due to the effect of alcohol. Consumption of drugs also results in feelings of paranoia and anxiety. The time taken for the drugs to affect the brain depends on the way the drug is consumed. The effect of drugs starts only after it enters the bloodstream and in turn reaches the brain. The effect is fastest and intense

when the drug directly reaches the brain. The effect of drugs is fastest while the drug is injected and slower when it is inhaled or eaten.