

ALCOHOL AND NERVOUS SYSTEM

Summary

One of the main organs exposed to the toxic effects of ethyl alcohol is brain, a main part of the central nervous system and nerve trunks and roots of the peripheral nervous system. The destruction of cells and tissues occurs in both addicted and non-addicted individuals, who use alcohol occasionally or temporarily. Alcohol acts on the nervous system like a protoplasmic poison inducing inter alia suicidal cell death by disordering their important biochemical pathways. Damage of the nervous system

structure and disturbances of metabolic and biochemical processes lead to addictive disease, which poses not only medical, but also social problems. Its treatment requires in the first place psychological support. It is especially important to stimulate a targeted system, which provides the emotional quality of cortical responses such as fear, anger, pleasure or disgust. The serotonergic, noradrenergic, opioid and other peptide systems play a substantial role in the process of addiction.