

THE RELATIONS — ETHYL ALCOHOL AND DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

Summary

The prolonged consumption of ethanol influences disadvantageously physiology and biochemistry of digestive system. In effect, structural and functional damages appear in this system, mainly in liver and pancreas. The ethanol metabolites, acetic aldehyde particularly, causes in the liver inflammatory reac-

tions leading to its fatty degeneration, fibrosis and cirrhosis. Chronic drinking of ethanol reveals inflammation of the pancreas, troubles of the digestive system motor activity and abnormal fat absorption. In the article, mechanisms connected with past alcoholic damages of digestive system are reviewed.