

# ALCOHOL AND ENZYMES

## Summary

Ethyl alcohol may affect the structure and functions of cells, organs and whole organisms. The organ most strongly exposed to toxic ethanol expression is liver. In hepatocytes 90% of ethanol undergoes enzymatic oxidation to acetaldehyde, and then to acetic acid. Acute and chronic ethanol intoxication inhibits

the biosynthesis of many enzymes, causes excessive accumulation of lipids in the liver, and in consequence its fatty degeneration. Alcoholic metabolic disorders in the liver and pancreas affect differently activity of enzymes in these organs, in dependence on the enzyme type and duration of ethanol intoxication.