



NP Addiction

Board and Certification Review

515 Questions and Explanations

2025
edition

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Drug Addiction



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Question 3: A 40-year-old woman with a medical history of schizophrenia presents to the hospital with altered mental status and suicidal ideation. She has a medical history of hypertension and alcohol use disorder. She admits to drinking a 6-pack of beer and 6 to 10 drinks of liquor daily for years. She is referred to the clinic to help her rectify her substance use disorder. She recently has lost her job and family due to her disorder. Vital signs include temperature 37 °C (98.7 °F), blood pressure 140/84 mm Hg, and heart rate 84 bpm with unlabored respirations. Which of the following hormonal responses have a significant impact on propagating her addiction, and what stimulates the release of that hormone?

Choices:

1. Melatonin released due to poor sleep hygiene
2. Cortisol released due to stress
3. Antidiuretic hormone released due to osmolar imbalances
4. Dopamine release due to norepinephrine

Section 10

Question 460: A 35-year-old man with a history of long-term polysubstance use, including alcohol, cannabinoids, opioids, and hallucinogens, presents with hallucinations, paranoid delusions, apathy, and social withdrawal. The patient is admitted to a psychiatric unit and discloses that his symptoms have worsened over the past 6 months. Which substance is most likely to have precipitated this patient's symptoms?

Choices:

1. Alcohol
2. Cannabinoids
3. Opioids
4. Hallucinogens

Answer: 2 - Cannabinoids

Explanations:

- The patient presents with signs and symptoms of schizophrenia but also has a long history of comorbid substance use, which must be considered when diagnosing psychiatric illness.
- Notably, the patient has both positive symptoms of psychosis (hallucinations, delusions) and negative symptoms (apathy, social withdrawal).
- He reports experiencing symptoms of psychosis for 6 months. Cannabinoids are the most likely substance to precipitate symptoms of chronic psychosis. Additionally, they commonly induce prominent negative symptoms.
- Although alcohol, hallucinogens, and opioids commonly induce acute psychosis, these symptoms tend to resolve quickly after detoxification.

Go to the next page if you knew the correct answer, or click the link image(s) below to further research the concepts in this question (if desired).

Research Concepts:

Psychosis



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- NP-Advanced Pathophysiology
- NP-Advanced Physiology
- NP-Urology
- NP-Wound, Continence, And Ostomy
- NP-Advanced Neurovascular Practitioner

Physician Assistant Specialties

- PA-PANCE
- PA-PANRE
- PA-Cardiovascular Thoracic
- PA-Emergency Medicine
- PA-Hospital Medicine
- PA-Nephrology
- PA-Orthopedic
- PA-Pediatric
- PA-Psychiatry

Pharmacist Specialties

- Pharmacy-Technician (PTCB)
- Pharmacy-NAPLEX Review
- Pharmacy-Ambulatory Care
- Pharmacy-Critical Care
- Pharmacy-Nutrition Support
- Pharmacy-Oncology
- Pharmacy-Pediatric
- Pharmacy-Pharmacotherapy
- Pharmacy-Psychiatric
- Pharmacy-Infectious Disease
- Pharmacy-Geriatric
- Pharmacy-Cardiac
- Pharmacy-Applied Toxicology

Nursing Specialties

- NP-Pediatric Mental Health Specialist (PMHS)
- LPN LVN NCLEX PN-Nursing Student