

Learning unit: Psychoactive drugs (Psychomimetics)

Important terms

Psychostimulants

- psychostimulants increasing noradrenaline and dopamine release
 - modafinil
 - amphetamine/dextroamphetamine (dexamfetamine)
 - methamphetamine
 - ephedrine/pseudoephedrine
 - phentermine
- inhibitors of noradrenaline and dopamine reuptake
 - methylphenidate
 - atomoxetine
 - cocaine
- methylxanthines
 - caffeine
 - theophylline
- nicotine

Psychotomimetics

- lysergide - diethylamide of lysergic acid (LSD)
- psilocin, psilocybin
- mescaline
- cannabinoids (THC)
- atropine, scopolamine (hyoscine)
- ketamine
- methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA, ecstasy)

Learning outcomes

Student knows basic pharmacological profile (mode of action, adverse effects, indications, contraindications) of psychoactive drugs.

Student gives examples of the main representatives of psychoactive drugs.

Student explains the mechanisms involved in addiction to psychostimulants.

Information sources

Rang & Dale's Pharmacology, 9th edition, 2020, chapter 49 Psychoactive drugs, pp. 623-641

Study materials in the IS – subjects aVLFA0822p and aVLFA0822c

Exam questions

Special pharmacology: 27. Psychostimulants. Drugs used in ADHD. Psychotomimetics.

Essential drugs: methylphenidate