ADDICTION-PRODUCING DRUGS

- (2) a tendency to increase the dose, partly owing to the development of tolerance;
- (3) a psychic dependence on the effects of the drug related to subjective and individual appreciation of those effects; and
- (4) a physical dependence on the effects of the drug requiring its presence for maintenance of homeostasis and resulting in a definite, characteristic, and self-limited abstinence syndrome when the drug is withdrawn.

The abstinence syndrome is the most characteristic and distinguishing feature of drug dependence of barbiturate type. It begins to appear within the first 24 hours of cessation of drug taking, reaches peak intensity in two or three days, and subsides slowly. There is at present no known agent that will precipitate the barbiturate abstinence syndrome during continuation of drug administration. The complex of symptoms which constitute the abstinence syndrome, in approximate order of appearance, are: anxiety, involuntary twitching of muscles, intention tremor of hands and fingers, progressive weakness, dizziness, distortion in visual perception, nausea, vomiting, insomnia, weight loss, and a precipitous drop in blood pressure on standing; convulsions of a grand mal type and/or a delirium resembling alcoholic delirium tremens may occur.

Drug dependence of cocaine type is described as a state arising from repeated administration of cocaine or an agent with cocaine-like properties, on a periodic or continuous basis. Its characteristics include:

- (1) an overpowering desire or need to continue taking the drug and to obtain it by any means;
- (2) absence of tolerance to the effects of the drug during continued administration; in the more frequent episodic use, the drug may be taken at short intervals, resulting in the build-up of an intense toxic reaction;
- (3) a psychic dependence on the effects of the drug related to a subjective and individual appreciation of those effects; and
- (4) absence of a physical dependence and hence absence of an abstinence syndrome on abrupt withdrawal; withdrawal is attended by a psychic disturbance manifested by craving for the drug.

Drug dependence of amphetamine type is a state arising from repeated administration of amphetamine or an agent with amphetamine-like effects on a periodic or continuous basis. Its characteristics include:

- (1) a desire or need to continue taking the drug;
- (2) consumption of increasing amounts to obtain greater excitatory and euphoric effects or to combat more effectively depression and fatigue, accompanied in some measure by the development of tolerance;