

Drug misuse is the improper use of common medications in ways that lead to acute and chronic toxicity. Physiologic dependence: is due to biochemical changes in body tissues, especially the nervous system. Laxatives, antacids, vitamins, headache remedies, and cough and cold medications are often self-prescribed and overused. Illicit drugs are of two types: (a) drugs unavailable for purchase under any circumstances, such as heroin, and (b) drugs normally available with a prescription that is being obtained through illegal channels. The two types of dependence, physiologic and psychologic, may occur separately or together. Psychologic dependence: is emotional reliance on a drug to maintain a sense of well-being, accompanied by feelings of need or cravings for that drug. Drug habituation: means a mild form of psychologic dependence.