

ce of these three qualities is still a matter of obscurity. Tolerance in addiction is obscure. Tolerance, however, has been observed in morphine-like drugs. It is the qualities of the addiction which has been regarded by pharmacologists, as the distinguishing characteristic of an addiction, particularly psychiatrian. A view intermediate between tolerance and dependence is probably correct. Both tolerance and dependence are important in addiction. <sup>6</sup> has shown that physical dependence develops in chronic morphine addiction. Physical dependence occurs in chronic morphine addiction. Wikler's observation that physical dependence is a real phenomenon of psychic origin. On the other hand, tolerance does not explain why tolerance continually increases until they are dependent. We explain why so many people use of drugs long after withdrawal. Some addicts begin to feel pain caused by organic habit to relieve emotional distress because they enjoy taking in amounts beyond to prevent the appearance

criteria of addiction: tolerance is developed; physical dependence is as consistently as with tolerance as observed among our patients. Withdrawal symptoms are observed alone or with withdrawal abruptly from 12 grains (0.78 Gm.) of morphine. Convulsions may occur within a few days and acute psychotic reaction may occur in ten days. Both of these symptoms are relieved by gradual reduction of dosage rates over a period of

several weeks but not physical dependence. The fact that withdrawal symptoms are relieved by elimination of the drug is doubtful.

An important qualification, however, is that physical dependence is not relieved by abrupt withdrawal.

Physical dependence does not induce

few pure cocaine addicts in the United States. Ordinarily the drug is used in conjunction with some physiologic antidote, particularly morphine.

Marihuana causes a mild form of intoxication which is popular among maladjusted adolescents and others, including musicians. Neither tolerance nor physical dependence develops with this drug.<sup>6</sup> The greatest danger of smoking marihuana appears to be possible precipitation of disturbed behavior in persons with incipient psychoses.<sup>6c</sup>

With alcohol, tolerance and habituation definitely develop. It is possible that delirium tremens, alcoholic "epilepsy" and other phenomena sometimes attributed to toxic effects of alcohol represent abstinence syndromes based on physical dependence on this drug.

#### ETIOLOGIC ASPECTS

Drug addiction should be regarded as a symptom of a basic underlying personality maladjustment. These personality disorders run the gamut of the standard psychiatric nomenclature from the simple anxiety states to the major psychoses. A vast majority of narcotic drug addict patients are fundamentally emotionally immature childlike persons, who have never made a proper adaptation to the problems of living. Many of our patients are former alcoholic addicts who found that narcotic drugs relieved their inner emotional tension as effectively as alcohol but, at the same time, did not produce obvious signs of intoxication. After changing from alcohol to narcotic drugs, alcoholic addicts may be able, for a period of time, to deceive themselves and their associates into believing that they are making a satisfactory adjustment.

The kinds of personality disorders which underlie drug addiction have been well described by Kolb<sup>7</sup> and by Felix,<sup>8</sup> who lists four general personality types.

The first group is made up of normal persons accidentally addicted. It consists of patients who in the course of an illness have received drugs over an extended period of time and, following relief of their ailments, have continued the use of drugs. These persons are frequently termed "accidental" or "medical" addicts. Such persons are regarded by some authors as constituting a special group of addicts who are different from those persons who began the use of drugs as a result of association with persons who were already addicted. In our experience, all "medical" addicts have some fundamental emotional problem which causes them to continue the use of drugs beyond the period of medical need. There is, then, no basic difference between "medical" and "nonmedical" addicts except in the mode of the original contact with drugs. In persons with stable personalities, social pressure, conscience and a well balanced emotional makeup negate the pleasure produced by drugs sufficiently to prevent their continued use.

The second group consists of persons with all kinds

The third and largest group consists of psychopathic persons, who ordinarily become addicted through contact and association with persons already addicted. They are generally emotionally undeveloped aggressive hostile persons who take drugs merely for pleasure arising from the unconscious relief of inner tension, as shown by this statement of an addict:

I was always getting into trouble before I got on drugs—never could seem to get comfortable; I had to go somewhere and do something all the time. I was always in trouble with the law. Some fellows told me about drugs and how good they made you feel, and I tried them. From then on I was content as long as I had my drugs—I didn't care to do anything but to sit around, talk to my friends occasionally, listen to the radio, and only be concerned with the problem of getting money for drugs. This I usually did by picking pockets or other such petty stuff.

The fourth and smallest group is characterized by drug addiction with psychosis. The persons in this group, many of whom have borderline mental illness and sometimes frank mental illness, are seemingly able to make a better adjustment while taking drugs. Sometimes it is difficult to establish the diagnosis and not until drugs are withheld does the psychosis become apparent.

There is a category of patients not included in the aforementioned groups. Kolb<sup>7</sup> originally listed these as patients with psychopathic diathesis. While it is true that some of these exhibit much of the overt behavior pattern of psychopathic persons, when studied carefully they usually fall into a milder behavior or character disorder group, which has characteristics of both the psychoneurotic and the psychopathic groups. Included are persons with severe dependency problems, withdrawn schizoid types, emotionally immature adults, as well as those suffering with the milder degrees of maladjustment and inadaptiveness to the complications of living. Felix<sup>8a</sup> stated that most of the persons falling into this group were making a marginal adjustment to life before becoming acquainted with narcotics. After their first few experiences with narcotics they felt an exhilaration and a sense of relief comparable to the solution of a difficult problem or the shaking off of a heavy responsibility. Many of them also felt an increase in efficiency which, in some cases, appeared to have been actual improvement.

In general, persons who never have been able to make a satisfactory adjustment to life, whose adaptive patterns of behavior have been inadequate, frequently find in morphine, much as the tired business man finds in the preprandial cocktail, a means of return to "normal." This is a false situation which may be recognized by the tired business man but is not recognized by the drug addict. Our studies indicate that patients who have made a marginal degree of emotional adjustment to life, and then have begun to use drugs, lose some

develops during addiction as ataxia and slurred speech. When the addicts are taking drugs, the drug in addition to the addiction. Morphine addicts are like the pupils and miosis for the presence of the drug. They furnish almost absolute evidence of receiving drugs, but they do not ordinarily appear to be in cases, the only possible isolation of the patient for observation for signs

The signs of abstinence in Himmelsbach and his group are not distinguishable between the signs which are attributed to the symptoms which are feigned. If morphine is abruptly withdrawn (0.39 Gm.) daily for a few days, a few signs are seen in the patient. The patient is tossing sleep which lasts for hours after the last dose. Sweating and lacrimation

TABLE I.—Simple Classification of Signs of Abstinence

| Mild (+)                    |
|-----------------------------|
| Yawning                     |
| Lacrimation                 |
| Rhinorrhoea                 |
| Perspiration                |
| Pronounced (++++)           |
| Insomnia                    |
| Restlessness                |
| Hyperpnea                   |
| Elevation of blood pressure |

signs increase in intensity during the first 24 hours of abstinence. At this time, dilatation of the pupils, waves of gooseflesh, and tremor are carefully in order to

About thirty-six hours after the last dose, noticeable twitching of the muscles of the face, term "kicking the habit," is observed in the legs, abdomen, and hands. The hands become prominent; the hands are seen. Rectal temperature rises. Respiratory rate rises. Blood pressure is 160/90 mm. mercury; caloric intake averages 5 or 6,000 calories. Acute signs and symptoms are seen 48 hours after the last

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The second group consists of persons with all kinds of psychoneurotic disorders who, as Felix<sup>8a</sup> said, take drugs to relieve whatever symptoms they may have. The manifestation of the neurosis may be anxiety, an obsession or compulsion or any of the great group of psychosomatic disorders.

6. (a) Wallace, G. B.: *The Marihuana Problem in the City of New York*: Sociological, Medical, Psychological and Pharmacological Studies, Lancaster, Pa., Jacques Cattell Press, 1945. (b) Reichard, J. D.: *Some Myths About Marihuana*, Federal Probation, **10**: 15 (Dec.) 1946. (c) Williams, E. G.; Himmelsbach, C. K.; Wikler, A.; Ruble, D. C., and Lloyd, B. J.: *Studies on Marihuana and Pyrahexyl Compound*, Pub. Health Rep. **61**: 1059 (July 19) 1946.

7. Kolb, L.: *Types and Characteristics of Drug Addicts*, Ment. Hyg. **9**: 300 (April) 1925.

8. (a) Felix, R. H.: *Some Comments on the Psychopathology of Drug Addiction*, Ment. Hyg. **23**: 567 (Oct.) 1939; (b) *An Appraisal of the Personality Types of the Addict*, Am. J. Psychiat. **100**: 462 (Jan.) 1944.

and may be combined with the use of other such petty stuff.

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## DIAGNOSIS OF OPIATE ADDICTION

The diagnosis of addiction is usually made by the patient's statement that he is addicted to and needs drugs. At times, however, addicts attempt to conceal their addiction and the diagnosis may be difficult. There are no pathognomonic physical signs of addiction, but emaciation, needlemarks and abscess scars are suggestive. In some instances, none of these signs may be present. Miosis is not a reliable sign, as partial tolerance to the pupillary constriction caused by morphine

distinguish between the true signs which are attributable to opiums which are feigned in a patient. If morphine is abruptly withheld after the patient has been receiving as much as 0.39 Gm.) daily for a period of several days, a few signs are seen in the first few hours of abstinence. The patient is restless, tossing sleep which lasts several hours after the last dose of morphine, sweating and lacrimation.

TABLE I.—Simple Clinical Signs of Abstinence

| Mild (+)                    |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Yawning                     | G   |
| Lacrimation                 | D   |
| Rhinorrhea                  | A   |
| Perspiration                | M   |
| Pronounced (+++)            |     |
| Insomnia                    | E   |
| Restlessness                | D   |
| Hyperpnea                   | W   |
| Elevation of blood pressure | (3) |

signs increase in intensity during the first few hours of abstinence; thereafter they gradually subside. At this time, dilatation of the pupils, waves of gooseflesh appear, and the patient should be carefully in order to detect the signs of withdrawal.

About thirty-six hours after the last dose of morphine, a noticeable twitching of the muscles (termed "kicking the habit") is observed in the legs, abdomen and back. The abdomen becomes prominent; vomiting may occur and is usually seen. Rectal temperature rises to 100.5 F. and the respiratory rate rises to 25 per minute. The blood pressure is usually elevated and the mercury is usually 5 or 6 pounds (2.3 cm. Hg.) above normal. Acute signs and symptoms reappear within a few hours after the last dose of morphine and remain at a peak until seven to ten days after withdrawal. They then gradually subside and the body temperature and the respiratory rate are detected for as long as three to five days after withdrawal. A simple clinical method of determining the degree of abstinence is shown in Table I.

9. (a) Himmelsbach and Small, C. K.: *Clinical Studies of Drug Addiction: The Withdrawal Treatments with Morphine*, Supplement 128 to the Proceedings of the Treasury Department, Public Health Service, Washington, D. C., 1939. (b) Himmelsbach, C. K.: *Studies of Certain Addictive Drugs*, Public Health Service, Washington, D. C., 1939. (c) Himmelsbach, C. K.: *Studies of Certain Addictive Drugs*, Public Health Service, Washington, D. C., 1939. (d) Himmelsbach, C. K.: *Studies of Certain Addictive Drugs*, Public Health Service, Washington, D. C., 1939.