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Subject BIOLOGY

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Questions and Answers

Explain what is meant by metastasis.

Ans: Metastasis is the phenomenon in which cancer cells due to unregulated proliferation spread to distant sites through body fluids to develop secondary tumors. Only malignant tumors show the property of metastasis.

List the harmful effects caused by alcohol/drug abuse.

Ans: Harmful effects caused by alcohol abuse are –

- (i) Alcohol generates more energy mostly in the form of heat, but at the same time, it dilates the blood vessels. Consequently the 'heat generated is rapidly lost. Due to constant dilation, the arterial walls soon become brittle & rigid. Such a change in the property of blood vessels & deposition of alcoholic fat affect the working of heart.
- (ii) Alcoholism leads to gastric ulcers & gastritis.
- (iii) In chronic alcoholism, the axon of the nerve inflame thus causing neuritis.
- (iv) Permanent damage to liver cells occur due to deposition of fats. The liver dries up & harden (cirrhosis).

Harmful effects caused by drug abuse are –

- (i) Excessive doses of drugs may lead to coma & death due to respiratory failure, heart failure & cerebral haemorrhage.
- (ii) Lack of interest in personal hygiene, withdrawal, isolation, depression, fatigue aggressive & rebellious behaviour etc.
- (iii) Acquire serious infections like AIDS & hepatitis B, who take drugs intravenously.
- (iv) The adverse effects of drugs are manifested in the form of reckless behaviour, vandalism & violence.

Do you think that friends can influence one to take alcohol/drugs? If yes, how may one protect himself/herself from such an influence?

Ans: Yes, friends can influence one to take drugs. Following measures can be taken:

- (i) Avoiding undue peer pressure.
- (ii) Not taking undue pressure of failures beyond its threshold.
- (iii) Getting counselling from some counsellor
- (iv) Seeking help from parents and peers
- (v) Seeking medical help

Why is that once a person starts taking alcohol or drugs, it is difficult to get rid of this habit? Discuss it with your teacher.

Ans: Psychological & physiological dependence of an individual to the intake of certain kinds of drugs and alcohol is called addiction. Once a person start taking alcohol & drugs, it is very difficult to get rid this habit because addiction drive people to take them even when these are not needed or even when their use becomes self destructive. With repeated use of drugs, the tolerance level of the receptors present in the body increases, consequently, the receptors responds only to higher doses of drugs or alcohol leading to greater intake & addiction. Thus, the addiction potential of drugs & alcohol, pull the user into a vicious circle leading to their regular use (abuse) from which he/she may not able to get out.