

badań psychofarmakologicznych, w których oceniano przydatność kwasu γ -hydroksymasołowego (GHB), w terapii uzależnienia alkoholowego. Mimo pozytywnych badań klinicznych stosowanie GHB w leczeniu osób uzależnionych od alkoholu budzi zastrzeżenia natury etycznej. Wyniki przedstawianych badań stwarzają nadzieję, że już w niedługim czasie będzie możliwa skutecznie pomóc chorym uzależnionym od alkoholu w ich drodze ku trzeźwości dzięki poszerzeniu arsenalu środków dostępnych w terapii uzależnienia alkoholowego o leki zmniejszające spożycie alkoholu.

Słowa kluczowe: farmakoterapia / uzależnienie od alkoholu

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Pharmacotherapy of alcohol dependence

SUMMARY

In this review of the literature recent research findings on pharmacological treatment of alcohol dependence are presented. Results of experimental studies on effectiveness of alcohol dependence treatment with disulfiram, fluoxetine, naltrexone and acamprosate are discussed. Disulfiram administered orally reduced the number of drinking days, while the number of relapses decreased in patients treated with naltrexone or acamprosate supported by psychotherapy. Furthermore, psychopharmacological research results concerning application of antidepressants in the treatment of alcohol dependent patients are reviewed. Such drugs as citalopram, fluoxetine, and tianeptine ameliorated depressive symptoms, but had no effect on alcohol treatment. Finally, outcome studies on the gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) effectiveness in the treatment of alcohol dependence are discussed. Despite positive results of clinical trials, the GBH application in the treatment of alcoholics raised objections of ethical nature. The presented research findings allow to hope that in the not too-distant future alcohol dependent patients may be more effectively helped on their way to sobriety by means of alcohol-consumption decreasing drugs newly available in alcohol treatment.

Key words: pharmacotherapy / alcoholism

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