Alcohol Metabolism & It's Biochemical effect

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Ethanol нн H_C_C_O Н н Н **Ethyl Alcohol**



Alcohol Metabolism

- Cellular processing
- Pathway perturbations
- Malate-aspartate shuttle
- Glycerol-3-phosphate shuttle

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Eric Niederhoffer SIU-SOM



Alcohol Dehydrogenase

- NAD+ dependent cytoplasmic enzyme
- Dimer
- 6 iso-enzymes
- α2, β2, γ2, αβ, αγ, βγ
- If β chain is mutated, even small quantity of alcohol may produce intoxication.

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Microsomal Ethanol Oxidising System (MEOS)

- Microsomal Enzyme
- Use NADPH & Oxygen
- Cytochrome P 450 is also involve in this reaction.

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Aldehyde Dehydrogenase

- Mitochondrial NAD+ dependent enzyme
- Convert Acetaldehyde to Acetic acid
- Than Acetic acid is converted to Acetyl CoA.
- Activity of ADH > ALDH
- Also, Activity of ALDH is in Indians < Europeans.
- Accumulation of Acetaldehyde in liver.
- Which is toxic, may lead to death.

Effect on Pathway



Biochemical Alteration in Alcoholism

- Lactic acidosis
- Inhibit gluconeogenesis, so Hypoglysemia.
- Ketogenesis
- Fatty Liver
- Cirrhosis of liver due to accumulated toxic effect of acetaldehyde
- Gout
- CNS depression
- Alcohol induce MEOS, which inactivate drugs like barbiturate & tranquilisers. So Chronic alcoholic require higher dose of drugs.
- Neuronal degeneration, Neuritis due to deficiency of Thiamin & Pyridoxal phosphate. (Wernick's disease)
- Pancreatitis
- Cardiac effect = Cardiomyopathy, Arrhythmia
- In Pregnancy = Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Effects of Prenatal Alcohol





Laboratory Finding in Alcoholism

- Serum Gamma Glutamyl Transferase (GGT) <u>& Alanine Transaminase (ALT)</u> increase in Chronic alcoholic
- Serum Amylase & Serum Lipase increase in Acute alcoholism
- Estimation of alcohol in blood
- Decrease Aldehyde dehydrogenase
- Increase Fatty acid ethyl ester
- Desialylated transferrin level is a highly sensitive marker for chronic alcoholic abuse.