

acupuncture as an adjunct treatment for substance use than previously realized by some physicians. Reported side-effects from acupuncture were minimal and overall patient satisfaction was high.

**Conclusions:** Auricular acupuncture, as an adjunct therapy to a comprehensive psychoeducational treatment program for women with addictions can be an effective method to reduce cravings, improve overall health and general functioning, and be a potentially safer, more viable treatment alternative to anxiolytics. Suggestions for future research will be presented.

## P0104

Improvement of neuronal energy metabolism and stabilization of mitochondrial function by ginkgo biloba Extract

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**Background:** Ginkgo biloba extract (EGb761) has been used for many years to treat age-related cognitive disorders. Recent studies also indicate a therapeutic potential of EGb761 in Alzheimer disease (AD). Bolstered evidence indicates that mitochondrial abnormalities might be part of the spectrum of chronic oxidative stress occurring in aging and AD finally contributing to synaptic failure and neuronal degeneration.

**Objective:** We investigated the protective effects of EGb761 on mitochondrial function and ATP production.

**Methods:** As cellular models, PC12 cells and acutely dissociated brain cells from young and aged mice were investigated under a variety of conditions, e.g. oxidative and nitrosative stress, associated with impaired mitochondrial function and decreased membrane potential.

**Results:** EGb761 alleviated mitochondrial functions in vitro at concentrations as low as 0.01mg/ml. The effect of EGb761 was specific, since protective effects were mainly seen after specifically impairing respiratory chain complexes II, IV, and V. Comparable findings were made with dissociated brain cells from young and aged mice where usually aged brain cells were more sensitive for the protective effects of EGb761. In addition, PC12 cells bearing an AD-related mutation in the amyloid precursor protein, that leads to enhanced beta-amyloid production, showed a greater benefit from treatment with EGb761 than control cells.

**Conclusions:** Taking together, our finding clearly show stabilization and protection of mitochondrial function as a specific and very sensitive property of EGb761 at rather low concentrations. This mechanism can explain many of the until now rather unrelated observations of EGb761 in brain aging and neurodegeneration.

## P0105

Increased Use of Benzodiazepine-like hypnotics is associated with fewer hospital treatment episodes for psychiatric disorders caused by sedatives / hypnotics

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**Background and Aims:** To test the association between the use of sedative/hypnotic medication and in-patient episodes of psychiatric disorders caused by sedatives/hypnotics.

**Method:** Annual sales statistics of sedatives/hypnotics in Sweden between 1998 – 2004 were retrieved from the Swedish Corporation of Pharmacies and information about misuse defined as episodes of in-patient treatment of psychiatric disorders caused by sedatives/hypnotics was retrieved from the Swedish Hospital Discharge Register.

**Results:** The use of sedatives/hypnotics increased by 31 %. Of the sedatives/hypnotics, benzodiazepines decreased by 49% and benzodiazepine-like hypnotics increased by 100%. These changes were each significantly ( $p < 0.01$ ) associated with a decrease (33%) of episodes for in-patient treatment of psychiatric disorders caused by sedatives/hypnotics. There was no significant association between the increased use of sedatives/hypnotics and the decrease (2.8 %) of episodes of psychiatric care caused by other psychiatric disorders.

**Conclusion:** The benzodiazepine-like hypnotics successively replaced the benzodiazepines for hypnotic use. The associated reduction of psychiatric treatment episodes for misuse provides support for the benzodiazepine-like hypnotics to be less liable to misuse than the benzodiazepines.

## P0106

Buspiron like anxiolytic or panicogenic factor at patients suffering from agoraphobia with panic disorder

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Buspiron is non-benzodiazepine anxiolytic and it was the first alternative for benzodiazepines (Sramek, 2002).

It was mostly used for the treatment of generalized anxiety disorders (GAD), but the efficacy was 7,5% in clinical trials. The most frequent reason for no-efficacy were psychosocial and environmental factors (Haller, 2004, 1).

The biological basis of panic attacks is hypersensitivity of autonomic nerve system (Tanay, 2001), as a precipitating factor is hyperventilation (Eric, 1991, 1996) or using the stimulating factors (like cigarettes, coffee, alcohol, drugs).

It is supposed, that anxiety disorders are caused by stress. We have more and more patients by years and incorrect diagnostic process and treatment can lead to chronification. We used hydroxyzin from non-benzodiazepine anxiolytics alone or in combination with short-time dynamic psychotherapy (Ignjatovic, 1998) or with cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy with control breathing during acute phase (Ignjatovicova, 2003) for the treatment of anxiety disorders.

We selected 8 patients suffering from agoraphobia with panic disorder from our out-patient practice. These patients were treated by buspiron, but treatment was non-effective. We used Hamilton scale for anxiety at beginning and every patient had HAMA more than 18 points. The goal of our study was decreasing HAMA score more than 50% and reduction of panic attacks more than 50% after finishing treatment by buspiron, and using control breathing.

7 patients from 8 patients have no panic attack during acute phase of treatment. They stopped use buspiron and starting with control breathing.

From our casuistics we supposed, that incorrect treatment by buspiron like common anxiolytics can increase anxiety, precipitate panic attacks and increase depressive symptoms at patients suffering from agoraphobia with panic disorder.