

**THE PROBLEM OF ALCOHOL AND NARCOTIC  
DEPENDENCE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE  
IN THE CONTEMPORARY UKRAINIAN SOCIETY**

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**Abstract.** The dynamism of social processes occurring at the present time, the crisis situation in many spheres of public life, are steadily leading to an increase of deviations. Alcoholism, crime and drug addiction are increasing in modern Ukrainian society. Three ways of solving the problem of alcohol and drug addiction are proposed: the complete elimination of these social phenomena, the mitigation of these social phenomena, the work to prevent the use of psychoactive substances among the youth. The author's classification of the risks of the development of alcohol and drug addiction is based on the analysis of domestic and foreign studies of the problem of alcoholization and drug addiction and describes the signs of recovery.

**Key words:** drug addiction, alcoholism, addiction, psychoactive substances, risk factors, prevention of addiction, youth.

The complex modern situation in the independent Ukraine is accompanied by the aggravation of many acute social problems. One of the key places belongs to the sharp spread of alcoholism and drug addiction among the youth.

Drugs and alcohol harm the whole body and represent a danger to human health due to the fact that internal organs are weaned out to work in a normal mode and require another dose of psychoactive substances. The difficulty in getting rid of addiction is connected with the fact that if you refuse to use the next dose, there is a withdrawal.

A well-thought-out strategy is needed to overcome addiction on psychoactive substances. The actions and measures taken must be systemic.

The lack of a strategic program to combat drug addiction and alcoholism among the youth can be explained by the uncertainty of the goal to be achieved. There are three ways to solve the problem:

1. The complete elimination of these social phenomena,
2. The mitigation of these social phenomena,
3. The work to prevent the use of psychoactive substances among the youth.

The mechanisms to achieve these goals vary significantly, although in an ideal development of events, these goals can complement each other.

With the complete elimination of drug addiction and alcoholism, the main factor of influence on the youth is the coercive factor. The state relies on the fact that the initiative to conduct all activities to combat addiction is its task. Coercive measures are applied to people who do not want to refuse taking alcohol and drugs.

The second goal that aimed at alleviating such a social problem as psychoactive substances addiction is rejecting the principle of coercion or a significant limitation of its scope. In this case, it is about helping people who are aware of its necessity and who are accepting this help. The society assumes the responsibility to make such assistance accessible to all who need it and to give them a chance to change their lives.

Prophylactic work to prevent the use of psychoactive substances among young people is both primary and secondary and requires a comprehensive impact on the identity of the youth.

Primary prevention should be designed to communicate with potential alcoholics and drug addicts. Preventive effects are designed to develop resistance to alcohol and drug addiction. Educational and organizational measures should be aimed at obtaining knowledge about the threat of alcoholism and drug addiction. They are called upon to teach young people to recognize and reject dubious proposals as well as to be able to leave the circle of pseudo-friends and protect them as much as possible from taking alcohol and drugs. Measures that stimulate enthusiasm for various developmental hobbies or activities should be aimed at developing the personality and maintaining interest in new knowledge.

Secondary anti-drug and anti-alcohol prophylaxis is a complicated, continuous process of influencing young people with the aim of changing the lifestyle and the formation of a different value system.

However, unfortunately, the existing state system of prevention of alcoholism and drug addiction in Ukraine is not structured and systematized enough, and, therefore, it is not very effective.

The purpose of the work is to present the author's classification of the risks of the development of alcohol and drug addiction and to describe the signs of healing (longterm remission).

Using the experience of domestic and foreign research item about the problem of alcohol abuse and drug addiction of the youth, it is possible to identify a number of factors that shape risk.

1. Biological factors:

- 1.1. genetic features;
- 1.2. intrauterine growth characteristics of the fetus;
- 1.3. mental disorders.

2. Personal factors:

- 2.1. interest in substances and conditions after using them;
- 2.2. subordination to authoritative persons who are addicted;
- 2.3. conformism as a characteristic of the personality;
- 2.4. emotional instability; 2.5. fear of rejection;
- 2.6. age crises.

3. Social factors:

- 3.1. constant emotional stress;
- 3.2. post-traumatic syndrome;
- 3.3. filling the psychological void;
- 3.4. presence of addicted persons in the surrounding.

4. Family factors:

- 4.1. behavioral scenarios;
- 4.2. lack of parental authority;
- 4.3. lack of attention from parents;
- 4.4. lack of control;
- 4.5. lack of adequate child-parent communication.

In this case, we are interested in those parameters that will allow us to fulfill the complex task of preventing and overcoming drug and alcohol addiction.

We believe that the following points play an important role in mitigating the problem:

- Increasing parental responsibility for the children and for their psychological comfort.
- Strengthening the institution of the family in modern Ukraine.
- Creating conditions for the development of the abilities to adaptate to the dynamic conditions of modern societies among the youth.
- Trainings of personal growth and training of stress resistance.

Thus, the problem of alcohol and drug addiction is one of the urgent problems of modern Ukrainian society and its solution in many ways depends on the limitation of the effect of pathological factors of a biological, social and psychological nature.