**How Medically Prescribed Drugs are Abused?**

**Medically Prescribed Drugs**

**What is a Drug:**

A drug is any chemical substance which alters the mental or physical functioning of any individual.

Drugs are of different types. Addictive drug are illegal or even some also have medical usage. When a drug is used for a positive purpose to improve health or cure a disease then it is known as drug use. While when a drug is used for any purpose other than medical, it is known as drug abuse. In this way, any drug can be abused and even medically prescribed drugs can also be abused.

**Taking High Dose:**

Medically prescribed drugs are abused in a way in which high dose of the drug is taken instead of the prescribed dosage. If a person is prescribed to take two tablets of a medicine in a day and he takes four tablets then it is a drug abuse.

**For a Long Duration:**

When the doctor has prescribed a medicine to be taken for ten days and the person uses it for twenty days or a month then it is also a drug abuse. Taking a drug for more than the prescribed duration is also a kind of drug abuse.

**Taking Frequently:**

This is also a way of drug abuse in which the person takes small doses of a drug but he takes it frequently. For example, a person is prescribed to take sedatives at night only but he takes small doses during the day too then it is also a drug abuse.

**Taking in Wrong Groups:**

Some people use drugs in wrong combination with other drugs which is also a drug abuse. For example, an individual takes stimulants (the drugs which produce alertness) that to remain active at office and sedatives (Sleeping pills). Furthermore, another example of drug abuse is the use of sedatives along with alcohol which is very much dangerous and even life threatening.

**To Use for Any Other Purpose:**

In this category people use a drug for any other purpose or to get any other effects rather than the purpose of the drug and for which it has been made. Furthermore, taking any drug without prescription also comes under this category of drug abuse. For example, an epileptic drug is prescribed to reduce the seizers of epilepsy but it also has some side effects which include relaxation and sleep inducing effects. And a person uses this drug to get the sedative effects rather than the intended usage of the drug then it is also a drug abuse.

More than that the drugs like marijuana, brown sugar, and cannabis etc which have been categorized as illegal drugs do not have any medical usage and their use for any purpose is to abuse them. And this drug abuse further leads towards the addiction

**Tolerance:**

When tolerance develops the individual requires higher and higher quantities of the drug to get the same effects he used to get with smaller quantities at the initial level. But now smaller quantities do not produce the same effects and the individual require high amount of the drug to get the same effects.

**Physical Dependence:**

With the development of physical dependence, the body of the drug user becomes fully dependent of the drug and the individual need to use the drug to for the normal functioning.

**Withdrawal Symptoms:**

With the development of psychological as well as physical dependence when the individual stops the use of drug, the withdrawal symptoms occur. When the drug use is stopped body gets confused and demands for the drug to do its normal functioning. And these vary from drug to drug and the withdrawal symptoms range from a small distress to tremors.