

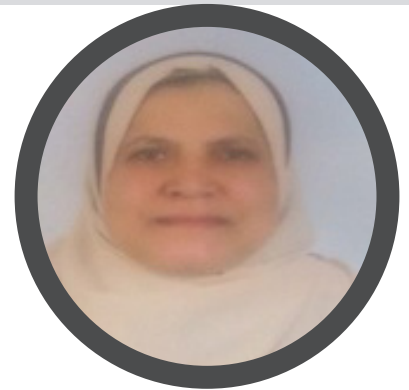
June 19-20, 2018
Paris, FranceMona E Moussa, J Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2018, Volume: 2
DOI: 10.21767/2575-7733-C1-001

DESIGNER DRUGS

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Designer drugs is an informal term for psychoactive drugs that were initially discovered through the research of, and experimentation upon, the structure and activity of existing psychoactive drugs. They are created in concealed locations and/or homemade labs. A designer drug generally mimics the effects of well-known drugs such as cocaine, morphine or cannabis, by using chemicals that are legally available on the market. The resulting drugs have similar effects to the well-known drugs, but their chemical structures are completely different. Designer drugs can be categorized to three major divisions: (synthetic stimulants) e.g Mephedrone, (synthetic cannabinoid) e.g. spice, (synthetic hallucinogen) e.g. foxy methoxy. Their effects are variable depending on the type of drug taken. The toxicological effects of those drugs are unpredictable owing to the diversity of the chemicals used and the contaminants which vary between the labs producing such substances.



Biography

Mona E Moussa has completed her MD and Postdoctoral studies from Ain Shams University. She is the Chairman of the Toxicology and Forensic department at Ain Shams University, one of the eminent universities in Egypt. She is the Director of Egyptian fellowship program of Clinical Toxicology and Head of Clinical Toxicology at Helwan University. She has published more than 80 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of repute.

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