Interactions between Alcohol and Drug Metabolism

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Summary

Alcohol inhibits drug metabolism in vitro and in vivo. Namely, the mean elimination half-life for imipramine and other drugs was significantly decreased in alcoholics. On the other hand, chronic alcohol feeding increased microsomal acetaminophen metabolizing enzyme activity. Drug administration also has an important influence on alcohol metabolism. Administration of disulfiram, an alcohol deterrent and cephem antibiotics increased alcohol concentration in the blood and this led to toxic symptoms, nausea and vomiting.