

# Contents

Foreword	ix
Acknowledgements	xi
List of background papers and contributors	xv
Abbreviations	xvii
<b>Chapter 1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
Structure of the report	1
Psychoactive substances and their sociolegal status	1
Global use of psychoactive substances	4
Tobacco	4
Alcohol	5
Illicit use of controlled substances	9
Adverse effects of psychoactive substances and their mechanisms of action	10
Substance dependence in relation to neuroscience	12
The burden of harm to health from psychoactive substance use	16
<b>Chapter 2. Brain Mechanisms: Neurobiology and Neuroanatomy</b>	<b>19</b>
Introduction	19
Organization of the brain	19
The neuron	25
Cell body	26
Dendrites	26
Axon	28
Terminal buttons	28
Neurotransmission	29
Action potential	29
Neurotransmitter release	30
Receptors	31
Neurotransmitters	32
Acetylcholine	33
γ-aminobutyric acid	33
Glutamate	33
Dopamine	34
Norepinephrine	34

Serotonin	35
Peptides	35
Genes	35
Cellular and neuronal effects of psychoactive substances	36
Cellular effects	36
Neuronal effects	38
Conclusion	39
<b>Chapter 3. Biobehavioural Processes Underlying Dependence</b>	<b>43</b>
Introduction	43
Defining terms	44
Classical or Pavlovian conditioning	44
Instrumental or operant conditioning	46
Reinforcer	47
Reward	47
Incentive	47
Motivation	48
Incentive-motivational responding	48
Drug reward alone does not explain drug dependence	48
Drug dependence as a response to incentive-motivation	49
Drug dependence as a response to drug withdrawal	50
Dopamine and reinforcement learning	50
Dependence-producing drugs as surrogates of conventional reinforcers	51
Dopamine and incentive sensitization	52
Psychomotor sensitization	53
Sensitization and drug reward	53
Sensitization and tolerance	54
Individual differences	55
Summary	58
<b>Chapter 4. Psychopharmacology of Dependence for Different Drug Classes</b>	<b>67</b>
Introduction	67
Alcohol (ethanol)	69
Introduction	69
Behavioural effects	69
Mechanism of action	70
Tolerance and withdrawal	70
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	72
Pharmacological treatment of alcohol dependence	72
Sedatives and hypnotics	73
Introduction	73
Behavioural effects	73
Mechanism of action	74

## CONTENTS

Tolerance and withdrawal	74
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	75
Tobacco	75
Introduction	75
Behavioural effects	75
Mechanism of action	76
Tolerance and withdrawal	77
Pharmacological treatment of nicotine dependence	78
Opioids	79
Introduction	79
Behavioural effects	79
Mechanism of action	80
Tolerance and withdrawal	80
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	81
Pharmacological treatment of opioid dependence	81
Cannabinoids	84
Introduction	84
Behavioural effects	85
Mechanism of action	86
Tolerance and withdrawal	87
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	88
Cocaine (hydrochloride and crack)	89
Introduction	89
Behavioural effects	89
Mechanism of action	89
Tolerance and withdrawal	91
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	91
Pharmacological treatment of cocaine dependence	92
Amphetamines	93
Introduction	93
Behavioural effects	94
Mechanism of action	95
Tolerance and withdrawal	95
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	96
Ecstasy	96
Introduction	96
Behavioural effects	99
Mechanism of action	99
Tolerance and withdrawal	100
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	100
Volatile solvents	100
Introduction	100
Behavioural effects	101
Mechanism of action	102

Tolerance and withdrawal	103
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	103
Hallucinogens	104
Introduction	104
Behavioural effects	105
Mechanism of action	105
Tolerance and withdrawal	105
Neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use	106
Summary	106
<b>Chapter 5. Genetic Basis of Substance Dependence</b>	<b>125</b>
Introduction	125
Family, twin and adoption studies: estimations of heritability	127
Identifying chromosomal locations of interest: linkage studies	127
Candidate gene approach	128
Animal studies	128
Genetics of tobacco dependence	130
Heritability of tobacco dependence	130
Tobacco dependence and linkage studies	131
Candidate genes for tobacco dependence	131
Genetics of alcohol dependence	132
Heritability of alcohol dependence	132
Alcohol dependence and linkage studies	133
Candidate genes for alcohol dependence	134
Genetics of opioid dependence	136
Heritability of opioid dependence	136
Opioid dependence and linkage studies	136
Candidate genes for opioid dependence	136
Genetics of the combined risk of dependence on tobacco, alcohol, opioids and other psychoactive substances	138
Heritability of substance dependence	138
Linkage studies of substance dependence	139
Candidate genes involved in substance dependence	140
Confounding issues in linkage and candidate gene studies	147
Environment	147
Genetic heterogeneity	147
Phenotype	148
Comorbidity	148
Methodological issues	148
Future directions	149
Social and cultural aspects	150
Risk factors and protective factors for dependence: an overview	150
Summary	151

<b>Chapter 6. Concurrent Disorders</b>	<b>169</b>
Introduction	169
Hypotheses that may explain the observed comorbidity	170
Schizophrenia	171
Tobacco smoking and schizophrenia	171
Psychostimulant (cocaine and amphetamine) dependence and schizophrenia	174
Alcohol use and schizophrenia	176
Neurobiological interactions between schizophrenia and the effects of psychoactive substances	176
Depression	180
Tobacco smoking and depression	181
Psychostimulant dependence and depression	182
Alcohol use and depression	183
Neurobiological interactions between depression and the effects of psychoactive substances	184
Discussion and conclusions	188
<b>Chapter 7. Ethical Issues in Neuroscience Research on Substance Dependence Treatment and Prevention</b>	<b>209</b>
Introduction	209
Types of research on neuroscience of substance dependence	209
Animal experiments	209
Epidemiological research on substance dependence	209
Experimental studies in humans	210
Clinical trials of pharmacotherapy for substance dependence	210
Trials of pharmacotherapies to prevent substance dependence	211
Approach to ethical analysis	211
Principles of biomedical ethics	216
Human rights	217
Ethics of animal experimentation in neuroscience research	218
Ethical principles in human biomedical research	219
Independent ethical review of risks and benefits	219
Informed consent	220
Recruitment of subjects	220
Privacy and confidentiality	221
Emerging ethical issues in neuroscience research	222
Research on vulnerable persons	222
Are substance dependent people vulnerable persons?	223
Provocation studies	223
Ethical issues in epidemiological research on substance dependence	224
Ethical issues in clinical trials of pharmacological treatments for substance dependence	225
Trial design	225

Distributive justice	226
Conflicts of interest	226
Trials of preventive pharmacological interventions for substance dependence	227
Early intervention studies	227
Preventive use of drug immunotherapies	229
Implications of neuroscience research for models of substance dependence	231
Implications of neuroscience research for the treatment of substance dependence	232
Access to treatment	232
Legally coerced treatment	232
Summary and conclusions	235
<b>Chapter 8. Conclusion and Implications for Public Health Policy</b>	<b>241</b>
Introduction	241
Advances in the neuroscience of psychoactive substance use and dependence and their implications	241
Potential advances in policy, prevention and treatment	243
Ethical issues in the application of neuroscience findings	244
Implications for public health policy	247
Conclusion	248
<b>Index</b>	<b>251</b>