

THIQ and the Disease Concept of Alcoholism

T.H.I.Q. -- Biochemical Culprit

T.H.I.Q. was discovered in brains of alcoholics in Houston, Texas by a scientist named Virginia Davis who was doing cancer research. For her study she needed fresh human brains and used bodies of homeless winos who had died during the night and were picked up by Houston police in the morning.

She discovered in the brains of those chronic alcoholics a substance that is closely related to Heroin. This substance, known to scientists, is called Tetrahydroisoquinoline or THIQ. When a person shoots heroin into their body, some of it breaks down and turns into THIQ. The Alcoholics studied had not been using heroin so how did the THIQ get there?

When the normal adult drinker takes in alcohol, it is very rapidly eliminated at the rate of about one drink per hour. The body first converts the alcohol into something called Acetaldehyde. This chemical is VERY TOXIC and if it were to build up inside us, we would get VIOLENTLY SICK AND COULD DIE. But Mother Nature helps us to get rid of acetaldehyde very quickly. She efficiently changes it a couple of more times - into carbon dioxide and water - which is eliminated through kidneys and lungs. **That's what happens to normal drinkers.** It also happens with alcoholic drinkers, but with alcoholic drinkers something additional happens.

What Virginia discovered in Houston has been extensively confirmed since. In alcoholic drinkers, a very small amount of poisonous acetaldehyde is not eliminated. Instead it goes to the brain. There through a very complicated biochemical process, it winds up as THIQ.

Research has found the following:

1. THIQ is manufactured in the brain and only occurs in the brain of the alcoholic drinker. It is not manufactured in the brain of the normal social drinker of alcohol.
2. THIQ has been found to be highly addictive. It was tried in experimental use with animals during the Second World War when we were looking for a painkiller less addicting than morphine. THIQ was a pretty good pain killer but it couldn't be used on humans. It turned out to be much more addicting than morphine.
3. Experiments have shown that certain kinds of rats cannot be made to drink alcohol. Put in a cage with a very weak solution of vodka and water, these rats refuse to touch it. They will literally thirst to death before they prefer to drink alcohol. However, if you take the same kind of rat and put a minute quantity of THIQ into the rat's brain -- one quick injection -- the animal will immediately develop a strong preference for alcohol over water.
4. Studies done with monkeys, our close animal relative in medical terms, show the following:
 - A. Once the THIQ is injected into a monkey's brain, it stays there.
 - B. You can keep the monkey dry, off alcohol, for 7 years. But brain studies still show that THIQ remains in place in the brain.

The alcoholic's body, like normal drinkers, changes the alcohol into acetaldehyde and then it changes most of it into carbon dioxide and water, which in the end is removed through the kidneys and lungs. However, the alcoholic's bodies won't remove all these chemicals out. The alcoholic's brain retains some back and transforms them into THIQ. As THIQ is accumulated in the brain of an alcoholic, at some point, maybe sooner, maybe later, the alcoholic will cross over a shadowy line into a whole new way of living.

It is not known by medical science, at this time, where this line is or how much THIQ an individual brain will pile up before one crosses this line. Some predisposed people cross the line while they're teenagers, or earlier. Others cross in their 30's or 40's and others after retirement. But once this happens the alcoholic will be as hooked on alcohol as he would have been hooked on heroin if he'd been shooting that instead.

With the loss of control, the complex symptoms have become chronic. All aspects of physiology have become progressive and incurable. Now it is clearly a disease.

GOOD NEWS:

1. Alcoholism is a disease.
2. Alcoholism is not the alcoholic's fault.
3. Alcoholics can get proper treatment for the disease, which begins with telling them these facts.
4. The alcoholic can be relieved of guilt.
5. The alcoholic can take on responsibility for arresting their disease.
6. The alcoholic can refuse to put more THIQ in their brains and refuse to activate the THIQ that is already there.
7. **Alcoholics can and do recover.**

For more information please visit the following links:

Relation between heroin and alcohol

THIQ--Biochemical Culprit

Technical Document Regarding THIQ, pharmacology, and biology

TRUTH, Costs, Don't, Facts, How, Why Should I Care, Laws, Numbers, T.H.I.Q., Life You Can Give Your Children, Your Stories, What You Can Loose

An additional note: When Anabuse is taken, the drug blocks the metabolic breakdown of Acetaldehyde. Anabuse forces Acetaldehyde to remain and build up. I have been there, and taken it and drank on it. It is a bad, bad drug that can cause kidney and liver damage. Not a good recovery choice. It goes along with the old aversion therapy.

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