

Risks

Lifetime risk for alcohol abuse or dependence

- approximately 15% in men
- 5% to 8% in women

Abuse or dependence on drugs other than alcohol:

- approximately 6% in the general population

Dependence on alcohol or other drugs has a probable lifetime risk:

- approximately 10% for men
- approximately 5% for women

Personality Disorders

- Frequency
- Characteristics
- Environment

Psychological Theories

- Psychodynamic issues
- Tension reduction
- Other psychological theories
- Behavioral conditioning

Socio-Cultural Theories

- Availability/Supply
- Reinforcement
- Cultural/Religious predisposition

Genetic Factors

- Family studies
- Twin studies
- Adoption studies

Complicating Factors

- High risk sub-groups
- Environment
- Mode of inheritance

Biological Factors

- Enzymes
- Brainwave patterns
- Level of response to alcohol

Children of Alcoholics (COA) Study

453 sons of alcoholics

- FHP (family history positive)
- FHN (family history negative)

Response of COAs

Diagnosis at Follow-up by Family History: Percentages

	<i>FFP</i> <i>n=241</i>	<i>FFN*</i> <i>n=182</i>
<i>No Diagnosis</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>72</i>
<i>Alcohol:</i>		
<i>Dependence</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Abuse</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Stimulant:</i>		
<i>Dependence</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Abuse</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Marijuana:</i>		
<i>Dependence</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Abuse</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Primary Affective Disorder</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Primary Anxiety Disorder</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>

*1 person later found he was adopted and could not be classified