

Physician's Alcohol NEWSLETTER



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· Henri Begleiter, Bernice Porjesz, and Robert Youdin of the Department of Psychiatry, Downstate Medical Center, SUNY, showed that in experimental rats exposed to alcohol for four weeks brain hyperexcitability is present several weeks after the last dose of alcohol. Their data suggest that the chronic intake of ethanol results in longlasting central nervous system effects even after ethanol intake stops. Furthermore, the persistence of these residual effects is dependent upon the length and amount of initial exposure to ethanol. While these residual signs may not be overtly observable, they become quite conspicuous with the administration of a single dose of alcohol.