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Abstract

Emerging knowledge of the brain mechanisms involved in the production of chemical dependence leads to speculation that a reversal of these mechanisms must be involved in recovery. This commentary reviews what is known about the neurobiology of addiction and recovery, and poses several questions related to recovery that should be answered to the benefit of individuals and their families seeking to resolve alcohol and other drug problems. It is time to extend our research focus from the study of pathology to the study of resilience and recovery. We propose that the shift will require more focused attention on the neurobiology of addiction recover.

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