

# Effects of bromocriptine on the voluntary consumption of ethanol, water, and solid food by UChA and UChB rats

Mardones, Jorge

Quintanilla, María Elena

The effect of bromocriptine (stimulant of dopaminergic D2 receptors) on the daily consumption of 10% v/v ethanol solution, distilled water, and solid food, under free-choice conditions, was measured in nine genetically low (UChA) and six high ethanol consumer (UChB) adult female rats. Animals were housed in individual cages and maintained at room temperature of  $23 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  and with 12/12 h dark/light rhythm. The consumption of ethanol solution, water, and solid food was measured in pretreatment, treatment, and posttreatment periods of 3 days (Tuesday through Thursday) of 3 consecutive weeks. During the treatment period rats received daily a single oral dose of 8 mg of bromocriptine mesylate (Sandoz) suspended in 1 ml of water per kg of body weight. Data analysis was performed with a method previously reported, which allows to recognize specific effect of ethanol intake, depurated from the effects on calories and/or water consumption. Results showed that all UChB rats decreased significant