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Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem
Pedagógiai és Pszichológiai Kar

PROF. AVIV WEINSTEIN: DRUG AND BEHAVIORAL ADDICTIONS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON BRAIN

10 May, 2018 4:30 p.m.

ELTE PPK (23-27 Kazinczy street, 1075 Budapest) Aula
Registration: ppk.elte.hu/en/aviv_weinstein



Prof. Aviv Weinstein, Dept. of Behavioral Science, University of Ariel, Israel

Aviv M. Weinstein, Ph.D is working at the School of Behavioral Science in Ariel University in Israel. He did his Ph.D in Psychology in the Psychology Dept. and the Psychopharmacology Unit School of Medical Sciences with David Nutt at the University of Bristol in the UK. He was a visiting research fellow at the Brain Imaging Center, Intramural Research Program (IRP) National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) in Johns Hopkins Bayview Hospital in Baltimore, MD USA where he was trained with Dr. Edythe London in PET brain imaging in drug addiction. He established a laboratory for brain imaging in drug addiction in the Depts. of Nuclear Medicine at Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv and in Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem Israel. He published more than 70 manuscripts and book chapters on drug and behavioral addiction.

About the lecture

Addiction is a chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences. In this talk I will describe studies that show how drugs affect the brain's structure and function. These brain changes can be long lasting and can lead to the harmful behaviors seen in people who abuse drugs. Furthermore, I will present evidence that shows that the neural mechanisms underlying behavioral addictions such as problematic gambling, Internet Gaming Disorder (IGD) compulsive sexual behavior and compulsive buying resemble those of drug addiction. Finally, I will discuss the comorbidity of behavioral addictions with other psychiatric conditions and the implications for treatment.