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**The Effects of Amphetamines on Driving and Sobriety Test Performance****K Papafotiou****BY Silber****CKK Stough**

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Reports suggest that driving under the influence of amphetamines can be dangerous and since the prevalence of amphetamine use is not decreasing this poses a risk on our roads. In December 2000, the Victorian Government passed legislation authorizing Victoria Police officers to administer the Standardised Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) to drivers suspected of being impaired by a drug/s other than alcohol. The reliability and validity of the SFSTs is questionable in terms of the test assessing "impairment" caused by drugs other than alcohol, as opposed to the "presence" of drugs. Despite this limitation, the Victoria Police, are administering the SFSTs as a means of detecting drug "impaired" drivers. The aim of the study was to evaluate the efficiency of the SFSTs in detecting driving impairment associated with 0.42mg/kg dexamphetamine, and to establish which signs of the sobriety tests are satisfactory predictors of dexamphetamine intoxication. A repeated measures counter-balanced, double blind, placebo controlled design was employed. Twenty healthy volunteers completed two treatment conditions: i) 0.42mg/kg Dexamphetamine tablet, and ii) placebo tablet. Performance was assessed using a driving simulator task and the Standardised Field Sobriety Tests, which consists of the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN); Walk and Turn (WAT); and One Leg Stand (OLS). The results indicated that the SFSTs successfully detected impairment associated with dexamphetamine in only 5% of cases. Incorporating HMJ as a sign of impairment did not increase the efficiency of the SFSTs to detect impairment. A series of non-parametric tests yielded no significant differences between placebo and dexamphetamine conditions on any of the signs. The SFSTs were 10% accurate in predicting driving ability as impaired or not impaired (day driving conditions only), after the administration of dexamphetamine. Incorporating HMJ as a sign of impairment did not increase the percentage of the SFSTs in correctly predicting driving ability. The SFSTs implemented by the Victorian Government are not efficient in detecting driving impairment related to dexamphetamine consumption.