🥕 🤱 Topic: Family Health (III)

Sub-topic:

- Meaning of Drug
- Drug and Substance Abuse
- Addiction and Misuse
- Examples and Sources of Drugs
- Uses and Side Effects of Drugs

Introduction

Drugs are important for **treating illnesses**, but when used wrongly, they can be very **dangerous**. Every member of the family, especially children and teenagers, must understand how to use drugs **properly** and avoid misuse and abuse.

1. Meaning of Drug

A **drug** is any substance (natural or man-made) that can affect how the body works, either **positively or negatively**.

- Correct use of drugs helps in the treatment of diseases.
- **X** Wrong use of drugs can cause harm, including addiction or even death.

2. Drug Misuse and Abuse

Term Meaning

Drug Misuse Using the **right drug in the wrong way**, such as wrong dose or duration.

Drug Abuse Using a **drug not meant for treatment**, often for excitement or pleasure.

Addiction A condition where a person becomes **dependent** on a drug and can't stop.

- Alcohol
- Cigarettes (Tobacco/Nicotine)
- Indian hemp (Marijuana)
- Cocaine
- Tramadol, Codeine
- Glue, Paint (inhalants)
- Cough syrup (when overused)

3. Sources of Drugs

Source Examples

Pharmacy Paracetamol, Amoxicillin, Vitamin C

Hospitals Injections, prescribed antibiotics

Chemists First-aid drugs, pain relievers

Illegal Sellers Street drugs, unlicensed hawkers

Note: Only buy drugs from approved sources like pharmacies and hospitals.

4. Uses of Drugs

- Cure or control illnesses
- **Prevent** diseases (e.g. vaccines)
- Reduce pain and fever
- Help with digestion
- Improve health (e.g. supplements)

Correct Use (under prescription) Wrong Use / Abuse

- Relief from illness - Addiction

- Improved health - Mental disorder or brain damage

- Disease prevention - Liver/kidney failure

- Poor school performance

- Risky behavior, crime, violence

- Early death

Role of the Family in Preventing Drug Abuse

- Teach children about the dangers of drug abuse.
- Monitor the use of drugs at home.
- Take only doctor-prescribed medications.
- Avoid keeping **strong drugs** where children can reach them.
- Be a **good example** by avoiding drug abuse.