

Oklahoma Center for Neuroscience

July 16, 2019 Neuro Night Summary

“The Toxic Brain”



The event panel (from left to right): Dr. Mike Ihnat, Dr. Jami Johnson, and Dr. Phil Kemp.

Dear OCNS Participants,

A warm July evening brought out one of our largest crowds of the summer to hear an expert panel of toxicologists at the Oklahoma Center for Neuroscience NEURO NIGHT on THE TOXIC BRAIN. Drs. Mike Ihnat, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Jami Johnson, DPh, DABAT, Assistant Director of the Oklahoma Center for Poison and Drug Information, and Phil Kemp, PhD, Principal Research Toxicologist for the Federal Aviation Administration spoke about varied drugs and their effects on the brain. Dr. Ihnat outlined the sources of opioid and other plant-based compounds and addressed the rationale for invention of ways to use them to treat pain, not leaving out the risk for abuse. Dr. Johnson talked about the remote and recent history of opioids and related drugs and provided samples and examples of drugs such as naloxone used to counteract overdoses. Dr. Kemp, a forensic toxicologist at FAA and previously at the Oklahoma State Medical Examiners Office, described the way a forensic investigator could differentiate a probable opioid death from a cocaine death at the scene as well as explained the scope of FAA toxicology investigations into all transportation related crashes including air, sea, and land conveyances. OCNS Graduate students, Chase and Shivani greeted guests.

Please join us for the August 20, 2019, NEURO NIGHT on The INJURED BRAIN at the Fountains at Canterbury!

Sincerely, John