Cosmetic Neurology:

Ethical Considerations & Public Attitudes

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Strength Speed Stamina Motor learning

MOVEMENT

Anabolic steroids IGF Erythropoetin Sildenafil Amphetamines Modafinil Arousal Attention Memory Learning

MENTATION

Cholinesterase inhibitors modafanil amphetamines ampakines LSD; psylocybine Anxiety Depression Cravings

MOOD

Emotional memories

SSRIs Benzodiazepines B blockers Naloxone Neuropeptide regulators? Oxytocin?

safety



fairness/character



access/dist justice



autonomy/coercion



Lifetime Use Rates

Students: 5 – 40% Poker players: 28% Economists: 19% Medical students: 18% Surgeons: 9%

> Anecdotal: Paul Erdos Charlie Parker

Metaphoric framing? Context? Other vs Self

Cognitive enhancing pills are [fuel/steroids] for the brain. People who take these pills may be able to think more quickly and efficiently. [<u>Athletes</u> sometimes take these pills while training so that they can learn their skills more effectively and perform better/Students sometimes take these pills while studying so that they can learn new information more effectively and perform better/Employees sometimes take these pills at work so that they can learn their duties more effectively and perform better].



Response by metaphor: Is it fine for athletes/students/employees to take these pills?

N = 1354, other > self; metaphor: > other, = self



Response by context: Is it fine for athletes/students/employees to take these pills?

N = 1354 other: employee > student, athlete

[Cognitive enhancing pills boost the brain, helping us to maximize our fullest potential/Cognitive enhancing pills boost the brain's abilities, helping us to minimize effort needed to **perform**]. People who take these pills may be able to think more quickly and efficiently. Employees sometimes take these pills at work so that they can conduct their duties more effectively and perform better. [These pills are natural ingredients from organic sources/These pills are pharmaceuticals that have been shown to be safe in multiple clinical trials/These pills are new pharmaceuticals and their risks and side effects are not well known].



Response by natural/safe/unsafe: Is it fine for employees to take these pills?

N = 1301 other > self, natural/safe pharma > pharma; Max/Min no effect

Cognitive enhancing pills are fuel for the brain. People who take these pills may be able to think more quickly and efficiently. Employees sometimes take these pills at work so that they can learn their duties more effectively and perform better. [Tom is an employee in a <u>contentious office</u> where he and his co-workers compete for raises and promotions. His success means that he gets ahead/Tom is an employee in a collaborative office where he and his co-workers cooperate toward a common goal. His success means that the company *gets ahead*].



More permissive with others' than self use

Metaphoric framing influences attitudes towards other use

Employees > Students or Athletes

Natural, Safe Pharma > Pharma w unknown SE

Demographic: more permissive Early tech adopters Men Younger

