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Drugs

COFFEE HABITUATION Caffeine and a placebo were given in a blind study to 18 housewives who were not coffee drinkers and to 33 who were habituated to coffee. Criteria of caffeine effects were evaluated on a self-rating form. There were major differences between the effects of caffeine in abstainers and caffeine users. Caffeine abstainers reacted negatively to caffeine, with the principal complaint of nervousness. Users complained of sleepiness and dysphoria after the placebo and reacted positively to caffeine, reporting increased alertness and decreased irritability. (Goldstein, A., Kaizer, S., and Whitby, O.: *Psychotropic Effects of Caffeine in Man. IV. Quantitative and Qualitative Differences Associated with Habituation to Coffee*, *Clin. Pharmacol. Ther.* 10: 469 (July) 1969.)