

Drug Information

Please call to report any suspicious drug related activity. The PPD will keep your call confidential. When calling, 978-464-2928, please ask to speak with an officer.

For More Information:

The Massachusetts Substance Abuse Hotline
1-800-327-5050 (24 hours)

Website: [<http://www.helpline-online.com>] <http://www.helpline-online.com>

STREET DRUGS AND CLUB DRUGS

Cocaine



Powdered cocaine and its derivatives, rock and crack.

Cocaine is produced as a white chunky powder and is often called coke, blow, white, snow, snort, flake, nose candy, hubba, or cane. It is said most often in aluminum foil, plastic or paper packets, or small vials. Cocaine is usually chopped into a fine powder with a razor blade on a small mirror or some other hard surface, arranged into small rows called "lines," then quickly inhaled (or "snorted") through the nose with a short straw or rolled up paper money. It can also be injected into the blood stream.



Cocaine paraphernalia, including scales dealers use to weigh the drug, and mirrors and razor blades used for preparing the drug before inhaling

Paraphernalia associated with inhaling cocaine include mirrors, razor blades, straws, and rolled paper money, while paraphernalia associated with injecting the drug include syringes, needles, spoons, and belts, bandanas or surgical tubing used to constrict the veins. Scales are used by dealers to weigh the drug. Sometimes substances such as baking soda or mannitol are used to "cut" cocaine in order to dilute the drug and increase the quantity of the drug for sale.

Cocaine powder is sold in plastic bags, glass vials, or in small cellophane or paper packets

The high from a typical inhaled dose of cocaine lasts for about 20 minutes. During this time your teenager may appear very alert, confident, energetic, and stimulated; physical signs include dilated eyes and a runny nose, and little or no appetite. The high from cocaine is followed by profound depression, an intense desire for another dose of the drug, mental fatigue, restlessness, and irritability. An overdose of cocaine can cause extreme agitation, respiratory failure, heart failure, or death.

Heroin



Heroin comes in a white to brown powder or a dark tar-like substance, and is sold in a variety of packaging.

The most dangerous and addictive narcotic is heroin. While receiving less publicity today than newer, more popular drugs, it continues to be a major problem in this country. Not only is heroin extremely addictive and dangerous, but as with cocaine and methamphetamines, addicts often resort to crimes such as burglary, grand theft, robbery, or prostitution to support their habits.

Sometimes called black tar, mud, smack, China white, or Mexican brown, H, heroin is derived from opium poppies. In its powder form, it may range in color from white to a very dark brown. The most popular form of heroin is an off white brownish powder like substance, which is sold in small foil or cellophane packets or in small toy balloons.

The most common use of heroin is by injection (called "mainlining" or "shooting"), but in its powder form it can be inhaled through the nose or smoked. Paraphernalia for injecting heroin include hypodermic needles, small cotton balls used to strain the drug, and water and spoons or bottle caps used for "cooking" or liquefying the heroin. Paraphernalia for inhaling or smoking heroin includes razor blades, straws, rolled dollar bills, and pipes. The high from the drug usually lasts from four to six hours.



Black tar heroin and the paraphernalia for injecting and storing the drug

If your child is under the influence of heroin, he or she may have constricted pupils, droopy eyelids, depression, apathy, decreased physical activity, and nausea. A frequent user may nod or appear sleepy, and repeatedly scratch or touch their face and nose. Larger doses of heroin may induce sleep, vomiting, and shallow breathing. An overdose can cause slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, or death.

In addition, there is a family of chemically manufactured drugs often referred to as "designer drugs". These drugs have been falsely represented as "synthetic heroin." The most prevalent of these "designer drugs" is fentanyl citrate, also called China white, which is many times more powerful than

heroin and has caused a number of deaths among addicts. Fentanyl citrate is used in the same manner as heroin.

Methamphetamine



Methamphetamine is sold in pill or powder form, and can be swallowed, inhaled, or injected

Methamphetamines and amphetamines are also highly addictive and dangerous stimulants. Commonly referred to as uppers and speed, these drugs are sold in powder, pill, and capsule forms that can be inhaled through the nose, swallowed, or injected.

Like cocaine and crack, the physical effects of methamphetamines and amphetamines are increased alertness, euphoria, appetite loss, dilated pupils, elevated heart rate, increased respiration, and elevated body temperature. Prolonged use of these drugs can cause blurred vision, dizziness, loss of coordination, and collapse. An overdose can result in high blood pressure, fever, stroke, and heart failure.

The most popular of the two drugs are methamphetamines, commonly called speed, meth, crank, crystal, or crystal meth or in its smokable form, ice, glass or crystal. Methamphetamines are usually found in powder form in colors ranging from white to tan, and can be swallowed, inhaled through the nose, or injected. It is sold in small plastic or paper packets or plastic bags. The paraphernalia associated with inhaling the drug are razor blades, mirrors, straws, and rolled dollar bills; the paraphernalia associated with injecting the drug include syringes, spoons, and surgical tubing, bandanas, or a belt used to constrict the vein.

Methamphetamine - Ice



Ice comes in clear rock crystals of varying sizes and is sold in clear, heat sealed cellophane packets.

Ice is the translucent crystal, smokable form of methamphetamine. It is also commonly called glass or crystal and, like other stimulants, is highly addictive. (In terms of molecular structure, ice and methamphetamine are the same). The use of ice results in a longer, more intense high and an enhanced and more rapid onset of the negative effects of other forms of methamphetamine.

Similar in appearance to rock candy or rock salt, ice is sold in clear, heat sealed cellophane packets. It is smoked by using a one-chamber pipe (bong) where the ice is heated until it turns to a gas, and then inhaled by the user.

If your teenager is using ice, he or she may experience increased alertness, euphoria, appetite loss, dilated pupils, elevated heart rate, increased respiration, and elevated body temperature. Prolonged use can cause blurred vision, dizziness, loss of coordination, collapse and toxic psychosis.

Prolonged use of ice will also cause damage to other organs, particularly the lungs, liver and kidneys. Heavy short-term or prolonged use can also cause delusional states or even a toxic psychosis similar to paranoid schizophrenia. Acute depression and fatigue may result when the use of ice is stopped. An overdose can result in high blood pressure, fever, stroke, heart failure and death.



Ice and the pocket micro-torch, and the glass pipe used to smoke the drug.

Some law enforcement and treatment professionals see ice as a growing problem because of its purity and its immediate and intense effect, which may, depending on the dose, last from 2-14 hours. In addition, its use may become popular because the smoking of ice eliminates the use of a needle, thereby reducing the risk of AIDS and other blood diseases; while the low cost of production results in large profits for the dealers who sell ice and the clan lab operators who produce it.

Marijuana



Marijuana is sold in plastic bags or in hand rolled cigarettes known as joints.

Following alcohol, marijuana is the second most popular drug with youth. It consists of the leaves, flowers, stems, and seeds of the cannabis plant, which are dried and chopped into small amounts. Marijuana can also be found as Sinsemilla, the potent flowering tops of the female marijuana plant.

Commonly referred to as grass, pot, weed, trees, and 420. Marijuana is usually sold and stored in small plastic bags, aluminum foil, or small rolled cigarettes. Marijuana is usually smoked in hand-rolled cigarettes called "joints," also, can be rolled in hollowed out cigars

referred to as "Blunts", and has a strong, pungent odor when smoked. Once the marijuana cigarette is partially smoked, it is often held by a small clip called a "roach clip." (Roach clips are made from many items, such as tweezers or electrical clips.) The leaves can also be smoked in small wooden pipes or water-filled pipes called "bongs." And finally, marijuana can also be blended into food, then cooked and eaten, most often in brownies.

FACT: **3-4 Marijuana cigarettes a day is equal to smoking 20 tobacco cigarettes per day.**

FACT: **Teenage tobacco users are 14 times more likely to use marijuana than their non smoking peers.**

Source: American Legacy Foundation and the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse.



Marijuana is smoked in small pipes or rolled into cigarettes which are sometimes held by "roach clips".

Paraphernalia associated with marijuana includes pipes, bangs, rolling papers, plastic bags, roach clips, "stash boxes" (decorative boxes designed to conceal and store marijuana), and eye drops and breath fresheners used to cover up signs of use of the drug.



Common ways to store and conceal marijuana.

In low doses, marijuana can induce restlessness, a dreamy state of relaxation, red or bloodshot eyes, and increased appetite. Stronger doses can cause shifting sensory images, rapidly fluctuating emotions, a loss of self-identity, fantasies, and hallucinations or image distortions.

Anabolic Steroids



Anabolic steroids are synthetic versions of the naturally occurring male hormone testosterone. Commonly called roids, sauce or juice, anabolic steroids are available in tablet form that is taken beneath the tongue or in an oil-based liquid that is usually injected in the buttocks or thighs. The effects are anabolic (muscle building) and androgenic (masculine, i.e., aggressiveness, deep voice). Steroids are most often used by athletes seeking an edge over the competition. National survey results indicate that many adolescents and young adults illegally use or have used anabolic steroids.

Developed in the 1930s, anabolic steroids are used to treat rare diseases in males whose bodies do not produce enough testosterone, as well as for conditions such as rare types of anemia and kidney disease or inoperable

breast cancer. Because of their serious side effects, anabolic steroids are prescribed by responsible doctors at the minimum dosage required to help their patients. Controlled by the Federal Food and Drug Administration, these drugs are legally available only by a doctor's prescription. However, a black market network of dealers accounts for an estimated 80% of the anabolic steroids used. The black market is supplied by illegally diverted pharmaceutical products, secret laboratories producing counterfeits of those products, or steroids smuggled in from other countries. These black market steroids are often sold in gyms, locker rooms, or through magazines. The oral anabolic steroids continue to be the most popular with athletes because of their greater anabolic or muscle building effects. Primarily water-based, oral anabolic steroids pose an even greater danger to the liver than the oil-based liquid forms. The oral anabolic steroids include Anvar, Dianabol, Winstrol, Maxibolin, Halotestin and Androyd, and stay in the body up to 40 days. The liquid forms commonly called oils, which are intended for intramuscular injection, include Bolasterone, Deca Durabolin, Durabolin, Parabolan, Winstrol V and others. Because they are fat-soluble, they have a longer reaction time than the orals and remain in the body for months. Anabolic steroids are extremely unpredictable. Different dosages of different types of anabolic steroids interacting with an individual's unique biochemistry cause widely different and unpredictable results. If your teenager is using anabolic steroids, he or she may experience a sudden increase in body weight and muscular development, insomnia, irritability, aggressive combative behavior, puffy face, severe acne, bad breath, a yellowing of the eyes and skin, premature hair loss, hyperactivity, and exaggerated mood swings that include uncontrollable outbursts of anger. Males may also experience testicular shrinkage and can develop female breast tissue on the pectoral muscles. Females may also experience a deeper voice and decreased breast size. Continued use can result in life-threatening situations involving the liver, cardiovascular system, and brain.

Ecstasy



Ecstasy (3, 4-methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine, or MDMA) is a drug that is illegally made.

Ecstasy is a stimulant drug that can cause hallucinations. It is known as a designer drug because it is created for the purpose of making someone feel high. The drug is popular with teens and young adults who go to clubs, concerts, or "rave parties." Users think the drug will make them feel good and enable them to keep going for days without rest. But people who use Ecstasy don't realize how dangerous this drug actually is.

Ecstasy has become one of the most common illegal drugs sold on the streets. In the last few years, Ecstasy has sent many young people to emergency rooms because of its dangerous side effects.

Ecstasy is both a hallucinogenic and a stimulant drug. It makes users experience a rush of good feelings (a high) and makes someone's feelings much more intense, whether they're good or bad. The drug's effects usually last up to 6 hours.

Ecstasy increases heart rate and can cause dry mouth, stomach cramps, blurred vision, chills, sweating, or nausea. It can make some users feel anxious, confused, and paranoid, like someone is trying to hurt them or is plotting against them. Scientists have recently proven that Ecstasy causes direct damage to brain cells that are involved in thinking and memory.

The drug can cause the salts and minerals in the blood to become dangerously diluted (thinned out), which can cause the brain to swell.

Permanent brain damage can result.

If a person takes Ecstasy, his or her body can dangerously overheat during dancing or other physical activities, which can lead to death. Ecstasy is also known as XTC, X, Adam, E, Rol.

Ketamine (Special K)

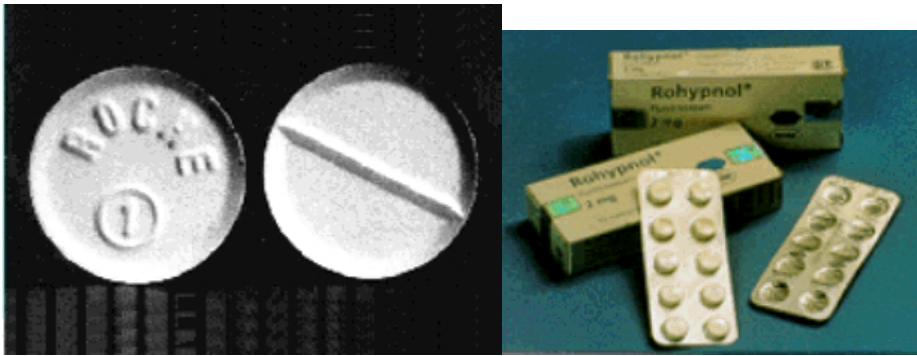


Ketamine hydrochloride ("Special K" or "K") was originally created for use as a human anaesthetic, and is still used as a general anaesthetic for children, persons of poor health, and in veterinary medicine. Ketamine belongs to a class of drugs called "dissociative anaesthetics," which separate perception from sensation. Other drugs in this category include PCP, DXM and nitrous oxide (laughing gas). Ketamine usually comes as a liquid in small pharmaceutical bottles, and is most often cooked into a white powder for snorting.

At lower doses it has a mild, dreamy feeling similar to nitrous oxide. Users report feeling floaty and slightly outside their body. Numbness in the extremities is also common. Higher doses produce a hallucinogenic (trippy) effect, and may cause the user to feel very far away from their body. This experience is often referred to as entering a "K-hole" and has been compared to a near death experience with sensations of rising above one's body. Many users find the experience spiritually significant, while others find it frightening. While in a K-hole it is very difficult to move. People usually remain seated or lying down during the experience.

Most people snort small lines or "bumps" for a mild, dreamy effect. The effect comes on within about 5 to 10 minutes. 100mg is usually enough to enter a K-hole. If liquid is injected into the muscle, less is needed to enter a K-hole. Effects can be felt within four minutes. (Ketamine is never injected into the vein). If swallowed, the effects come on in 10 - 20 minutes.

Rohypnol/GHB/Roofies



Rohypnol (Flunitrazepam) is a type of benzodiazepine, a class of drugs that depresses the central nervous system. You may have heard of Valium and Xanax. These are also benzodiazepines used as sedatives and anti-anxiety agents. Rohypnol was developed as a sleeping aid. It is also used in therapy settings to relax patients and to get them talking. Rohypnol is manufactured in Europe and Latin America and is sold in many countries around the world. However, it is illegal in the United States and Canada. The pills are round, white and smaller than aspirin.

Because Rohypnol is inexpensive, it is becoming popular with high school and college students. In the US, Rohypnol is used mostly at parties, and usually taken with alcohol. It has a synergistic effect with other drugs such as alcohol. This means that one drug increases the effect of the other.

Rohypnol can produce amnesia (memory loss) and muscle relaxation and make people lower their inhibitions. An inhibition is when you feel like you can't do something. When inhibitions are lowered, people feel as if an obstacle has been removed. Therefore, they can talk more freely and feel less shy.

Because Rohypnol is colorless, odorless and flavorless, it can be slipped into drinks unnoticed. This is one reason this drug is so dangerous. People may consume it without knowing it. It dissolves quickly and takes effect in 20-30 minutes. Its effects can last 8-12 hours. Within the past few years, Rohypnol has become known as the "date rape" drug. People will come home from a party and have no idea what happened to them because they unknowingly ingested Rohypnol, passed out, and woke up several hours later with no memory of the evening. To address this new use, Congress passed the "Drug-Induced Rape Prevention and Punishment Act of 1996" to increase

federal penalties for the use of any controlled substance to aid in a sexual assault.

Continued, repeated use of Rohypnol may result in addiction and although Rohypnol is a sedative, it can cause aggressive behavior in some people. Withdrawal symptoms may occur and include headaches, sore muscles, hallucinations, convulsions, and possibly seizures 1-2 weeks after quitting the drug.

Although overdoses are rarely fatal, emergency services are sometimes required because Rohypnol can cause a person to vomit, hallucinate, have trouble breathing and fall into a coma. When Rohypnol is combined with alcohol the outcome is usually worse.

Street names for Rohypnol include rophies, ruffies, R2, roofenol, Roche, la rocha, rope, roopies, ropies, and rib.

Oxycontin



OxyContin is a prescription painkiller used for moderate to high pain relief associated with injuries, bursitis, dislocation, fractures, neuralgia, arthritis, lower back pain, and pain associated with cancer. OxyContin contains oxycodone, the medication's active ingredient, in a timed-release tablet. Oxycodone products have been illicitly abused for the past 30 years.

OxyContin produces opiate-like effects and is sometimes used as a substitute for heroin. Illicit uses of OxyContin include crushing the tablet and ingesting or snorting it. Most individuals who abuse this drug do so to gain euphoric effects, relieve pain, and to avoid withdrawal symptoms. Those who take the drug repeatedly can develop a tolerance or resistance to the drug's effects.