

Ketamine

Street Name: "Special K", "K", "Kit Kat", "Vitamin K"

Category: Central nervous system depressant

Forms: Powder, tablets or liquid

Effect and danger:

- Depression
- Impaired long-term memory and cognitive difficulties
- Impaired motor function
- Deficiency in motor co-ordination and impairment in executive function
- Physiological and psychological dependence
- Lowers heart rate and leads to oxygen starvation to brain and muscles
- Unconsciousness and depressed circulatory and respiratory systems, sometimes causing death
- Marked discomfort in passing urine, reduced bladder volume, frequent visits to toilet, incontinence, renal failure.

Ice

Proper name: Methylamphetamine, also known as methamphetamine

Category: Potent central nervous system stimulant

Forms: Semi-transparent, colourless, grain-sized crystals

Effect and danger:

- Inability to sleep
- Agitation
- Panic and confusion
- Anxiety and tension
- Hallucination and feeling of persecution which may lead to violent behaviour
- In very high doses, toxic psychosis, convulsions, coma, brain haemorrhage and death can occur.

Ecstasy

Proper Name: Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)

Category: Central nervous system stimulant and hallucinogen

Forms: Tablets of various colours and shapes impressed with logos

Effect and danger:

- Over-exercise may lead to exhaustion, over-heating and eventually convulsion or collapse
- Causing convulsions of muscles and uncontrollable behaviour of "shaking and dancing"
- Confusion, depression, sleep problem, anxiety and paranoia during, and sometimes weeks after taking the drug
- Increase in heart rate and blood pressure poses a special risk for people with circulatory or heart disease
- Hot crowded conditions can lead to dehydration and heart or kidney failure
- Abusers may undermine safe sex practices due to reduction in inhibitions.

Cannabis

Street Name: "Marijuana", "hash", "grass"

Category: Hallucinogen

Forms: Herbal cannabis, cannabis buds and resin

Effect and danger:

- Reduced concentration and impaired memory and judgment
- Depression and extreme suspicion of others
- Nervousness, irritability and short temper
- Bronchitis
- Conjunctivitis
- Endocrine disorder
- Regular users of cannabis are more likely to try other illicit drugs.

Cough Medicine

Street Name: "Robo" / "DXM"

Form: Syrup form

Effect and danger:

- Memory loss
- Reduced breathing rate
- Brain damage
- Intoxication and drug induced mental disorders
- Tooth decay
- Many abusers underestimate the addictiveness of cough medicine and gradually increase the dosages and thus the risks.

Cocaine

Street name: "C", "coke", "flake", "snow", "stardust", "charlie", "crack", "gold dust", "coco"

Category: Central nervous system stimulant

Forms: White flaky crystalline powder

Effect and danger:

- Agitation
- Feeling of persecution
- Impotence
- Loss of appetite
- Confusion
- Extremely high doses of cocaine may cause delirium, irregular breathing, convulsions, and unconsciousness which could lead to death.