

Ketamine

Ketamine hydrochloride, known as “special K” and “K” is a general anesthetic for veterinary use. Ketamine produces effects similar to PCP with the visual effects of LSD. Users say a Ketamine “trip” is much better than that of PCP or LSD, because its over thallucinogenic effects are short acting, lasting an hour or less. The drug, however, can affect senses, judgment, and coordination for 18 to 24 hours.

Ketamine sold on the streets comes from diverted legitimate supplies, primarily veterinary clinics. Its appearance is similar to that of pharmaceutical grade cocaine, and it is snorted, placed in alcoholic beverages, or smoked in combination with marijuana. Ketamine was placed in Schedule III of the Federal Controlled Substance Act in August 1999. Individuals arrested while in possession of Ketamine are prosecuted federally.

Ketamine Street Names:

Baby food, Bump, Cat killer, Cat valium, Fort Dodge, God, Green, Green K, Honey oil, Jet, K, K-hole, K-land, Ket, Kit kat, Psychedelic heroin, Purple, Special K

PCP

PCP is Phencyclidine. It was first used as an anesthetic, but due to its side effects of confusion and delirium it was discontinued for humans. Veterinarians used it for a short time for animals, but it was again discontinued. Today, all of the PCP found in the United States is illegally manufactured.

PCP can be found as a powder or a liquid, which may be applied to leafy material and smoked. In its pure form it is a white crystalline powder, but due to the variances in production it can be found from white to brown in color, and from white powder to a gummy mass. The drug's effects are as varied as its appearance. A moderate amount often causes a feeling of detachment from ones surroundings. Numbness, slurred speech, and loss of coordination may be accompanied by a sense of strength and invulnerability. Hallucinations, image distortion, severe mood disorders, and a sense of impending doom are also associated with the drug.

Many experts believe that PCP is one of the most dangerous drugs. Modification of the manufacturing process may yield chemically similar analogs of the drug.

PCP Street Names

Angel Dust, Supergrass, Killer Weed, Embalming Fluid, Rocket Fuel.



Many teens and young adults are being introduced to the “rave” or “club culture” of today. The club or rave experience revolves around techno music, high energy dancing, and socializing, usually throughout the night. The drugs commonly used in these settings often go beyond the “traditional” drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and marijuana. These drugs are referred to as “designer drugs” and are becoming increasingly more popular.

Designer drugs are similar in structure and effect to other abused drugs. Many of these drugs are produced in illegal, clandestine laboratories. Unfortunately, most young people are not aware of the health risks associated with these designer drugs, especially when combined with alcohol and other substances. See MSHP brochure Synthetic Drugs for more information on designer and synthetic drugs.

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What You Should
Know About
CLUB DRUGS

DXM

Dextromethorphan is a cough suppressant found in more than 120 over-the-counter cold medications either alone or in conjunction with other drugs such as acetaminophen, antihistamines, or expectorants. Abusers of this drug report a heightened sense of perceptual awareness, altered time perception, and visual hallucinations. Effects of dextromethorphan include hyperexcitability, lethargy, ataxia, slurred speech, sweating, hypertension, and/or nystagmus. Dextromethorphan is formulated as cough syrups, tablets, gel capsules, and lozenges.

The majority of abuse occurs among teenagers and young adults. Dextromethorphan alone or mixed with other ingredients, such as ephedrine or phenylpropanolamine, has been sold as “Ecstasy.” It has been identified as “filler” in confiscated samples of “bogus heroin” and “bogus ketamine.”

Dextromethorphan Street Names

DXM, DM, CCC, Triple C, Candy, Robo, Velvet, Rojo.

Rohypnol

Rohypnol is the brand name for flunitrazepam, a benzodiazepine drug. It is in the same family of medications as Valium and Xanax. (Rohypnol is seven to 10 times as potent as Valium.) But, unlike these other drugs, Rohypnol has never been approved for medical use in the United States. It is illegal to manufacture, distribute, or possess Rohypnol in this country. Rohypnol is a fast-acting sedative. The physical effects of the drug may be noticeable within 20 to 30 minutes after ingestion. It causes drowsiness, confusion, impaired motor skills, dizziness, disinhibition, dehydration, impaired judgment, and reduced levels of consciousness. The user may seem to be drunk or may be completely unconscious. When mixed with alcohol or other drugs the combination may produce extremely low blood pressure, respiratory depression, difficulty breathing, coma, or death.

One of the most disturbing effects of Rohypnol is that it can produce complete or partial amnesia (loss of memory) for the events that take place after it is ingested. This effect is heightened when Rohypnol is ingested with alcohol.

Rohypnol Street Names

Ruffies, Roofies, Roches, Roaches, La Rochas, Rope, Rib, Forget Pill, Poor Man’s Quaalude, R-2s, Circles, Dulcitas, Whiteys, Trip-and-Fall, Mind-Erasers, Mexican Valium, Lunch Money (referring to the low street price), Pappas, Potatoes, Negatives, Minuses (referring to the markings on the 1 mg. tablets), Pluses or Roche Dos (referring to the markings on the 2 mg. tablets).



GHB

GHB is Gamma Hydroxybutyrate. It has been tested for potential medical uses such as an aid in sleep disorders, alcohol dependency, and as a nutritional supplement. Currently, there is no legal use for GHB. It is not approved for medical use in the United States.

GHB is a powerful synthetic drug that acts as a depressant on the central nervous system. It is rapidly metabolized by the body. The effects of the drug can be felt within 15 minutes after ingestion. GHB can cause dizziness, nausea, vomiting, confusion, dehydration, seizures, respiratory depression, intense drowsiness, unconsciousness, coma, and death. When GHB is mixed with alcohol or other drugs it could be fatal.

Two characteristics of GHB make it very dangerous: First, most GHB is commonly made in “street labs,” bathrooms, or kitchens using various chemicals. These chemicals include a variety of solvents and caustic sodas. As a result, the purity is inconsistent and could result in very different effects. Second, there is a very narrow margin between the dose that produces intoxication and one that produces more harmful effects.

GHB Street Names

Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH), Liquid X, Liquid E, Liquid Ecstasy, Easy Lay, G, Vita-G, G-Juice, Georgia Home Boy, Great Hormones, Bedtime Scoop, Soap, Gook, Gamma 10, and Energy Drink.

Ecstasy (MDMA)

Ecstasy is a stimulant that combines the properties of methamphetamine with hallucinogenic properties. Ecstasy has been administered by doctors for appetite suppression and assisting in psychotherapy. It has been determined that beyond federal testing, there is no medical use for MDMA.

A “high” can last from six to 24 hours, with a “trip” lasting three to four hours. At moderate doses Ecstasy causes euphoria, enhanced mental or emotional clarity, anxiety, or paranoia. At higher doses it will cause hallucinations, sensations of lightness and floating, depression, paranoid thinking, and violent and irrational behavior. An MDMA overdose can cause a rise in blood pressure, panic attacks, unconsciousness, seizures, heart failure, strokes, and death.

Ecstasy is usually ingested in capsule, tablet, or powder form. It can be taken orally or injected. Physical reactions can include loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, teeth grinding, faintness, insomnia, and loss of voluntary body movements. Some reactions have been reported to persist from one to 14 days.

MDMA Street Names

Ecstasy, Adam, Eve, X-TC, Lovers Speed, Clarity, Essence, X, Molly.



LSD

LSD is Lysergic Acid Diethylamide. LSD is the most potent hallucinogen known to man. It is found on ergot, a fungus that grows on rye and other grains. Users commonly refer to it as “acid”. LSD was used as a research tool to study mental illness decades ago because of the effects of the drug on the brain.

Physical reactions to LSD may include dilated pupils, lowered body temperature, nausea, “goose bumps,” profuse perspiration, increased blood sugar, and increased heart rate. During the first hour, the user may experience extreme mood changes. The user may also experience impaired depth and time perception. Additionally, the drug may distort the perception of the size and shape of objects, movements, sound, and color. At higher doses, one may experience anxiety or depression. Also, users may have “flashbacks” of the “trip” for months afterward.

LSD is packaged in dosage units that are referred to as “hits” and can be found in tablets, capsules, liquid, thin squares of gelatin, or absorbed onto small stamp like squares of colorful paper which are placed in the mouth. “Blotter Acid” is absorbent paper soaked in LSD and sold in squares for four to five dollars.

LSD Street Names

Windowpane, Microdot, White Lightning, Blue Heaven, Sugar Cubes, Acid, Blotter, Cid, Doses, Trips.

