



LEARN THE SYMPTOMS & HEALTH EFFECTS OF COMMON DRUGS

MARIJUANA

(Pot, Reefer, Grass, THC, Hash)

Health Effects

- Can impair memory and judgement by destroying brain cells
- Raises blood pressure
- Contains more known carcinogens than cigarettes

Symptoms

- Euphoria ??? without cause
- Relaxed inhibitions, disoriented behavior
- Staring off into space
- Time distortion
- Bloodshot eyes
- Dry mouth and throat

Duration: 2-4 hours

BARBITURATES: MEHAQUALONE

(Qualudes, Ludes, Yellow Jackets, Red Devils)

Health Effects

- Can cause slurred speech, staggering gait, poor judgement and slow, ??? reflexes
- Large doses can cause unconsciousness and death

Symptoms

- Slurred speech
- Disorientation
- Drunken behavior with no odor or alcohol
- Sedation

Duration: 1-16 hours

COCAINE

(Coke, Snow, Blow, Gold Dust, Lady)

Health Effects

- Dilated Pupils
- Increased blood pressure, heart rate, breathing rate, and body temperature
- Can cause seizures, heart attacks and death

Symptoms

- Apathy
- Anxiety
- Sleeplessness
- Paranoia, hallucinations

COCAINE (Symptoms cont)

- Craving for more cocaine
- Weight loss
- Constant sniffing

Duration: 1-2 hours

CRACK COCAINE

(Crack, Rock)

Health Effects

- More, and stronger effects than cocaine, crack cocaine gets to the brain quicker, increases risk of crack cocaine use

Symptoms

- Same as cocaine

Duration: 5-10 minutes

AMPHETAMINES

(Uppers, Speed, Black Beauties)

Health Effects

- Increased heart rate and blood pressure
- High doses can cause tumors, loss of coordination and death from stroke or heart failure
- Frequent use of large amounts can produce brain damage, ulcers and malnutrition

Symptoms

- Decreased appetite
- Dilated Pupils
- Sleeplessness
- Agitation, unusual increase in activity

Duration: 1-2 hours

PCP OR PHENCYCLIDINE

(Angel Dust, Killer Weed, Crystal Cydone, Elephant Tranquilizer, Rocket Fuel)

Health Effects

- Increased heart rate and blood pressure
- Large doses can cause convulsions, coma, heart and lung failure and ruptured brain vessels
- Users may suffer long-term effects on memory, judgement, concentration and perception

(continued on back)

LEARN THE SYMPTOMS & HEALTH EFFECTS OF COMMON DRUGS

PCP OR PHENCYCLIDINE

Symptoms

- Sweating, dizziness and numbness
- Hallucinations, confusion and agitation
- Violence and aggression or silence and withdrawn stare

Duration: Variable

HEROIN

(Mexican Brown, China White, Persian Porcelain, H)

Health Effects

- Repeated use can lead to infections of heart lining and valves, skin abscesses and congested lungs
- Can lead to convulsions, coma and death

Symptoms

- Watery eyes, runny nose and sweating
- Yawning
- Loss of appetite, tremors and irritability
- Panic, chills, cramps and nausea

Duration: 12-24 hours

GAS AND GLUE

(Rush, Locker Room, Aerosol Cans, any nitrate, gasoline, lighter fluid)
Inhaled through a saturated cloth in a bag covering nose and mouth.

Health Effects

- Brain damage occurs when used over a long period of time
- All these chemicals carry considerable risk, particularly of cardiac arrhythmia

Symptoms

- Very alert, keen senses
- Hallucinations, dizziness, scrambled words and disconnected sentences
- Smells like the substance being used

Duration: Variable

HALLUCINOGENS

(LSD, ???, Peyote, Mushrooms)

Health Effects

- Dilated pupils, nausea and stomach cramps
- Increased blood pressure
- Hallucinations and blackouts
- Flashback, a recurrence of the drug effect

Symptoms

- Beady eyes
- Nervous, erratic behavior, laughing, crying, personality changes
- Imaginary images of colors, odors, noises
- Marked depersonalization

Duration: 3-12 hours

MIDMA

(Adam, Ecstasy, X-TC days, a designer drug: structural analogs or controlled substances)

Health Effects

- Increased heart rate and blood pressure
- Blurred vision, chills and sweating
- Possibly causes brain damage

Symptoms

- Confusion, depression, sleep problems
- Anxiety, paranoia
- Muscle tension, involuntary teeth clenching and nausea

Duration: Variable, up to several days

