

Street Drug Guide

Amphetamines (*Amphetamine Sulphate*)

Description:

Comes in powder and tablet forms.

Commonly called:

Speed, Whiz, Amph.

Physical Symptoms:

Confused thinking; alternating moods; aggressive behaviour; abundance of energy; jerky movements; dry mouth; no appetite; inability to sleep; exhaustion; toxic psychosis.



Look for:

Folded wraps of paper (5cm x 5cm). When unfolded; powder may be white, greyish white, pink or yellow in colour; tablets; needles; and syringes.

Dangers:

Hallucinations; delusions; panic; paranoia; depression; heart failure; damaged blood vessels; HIV/hepatitis if shared injecting.

Benzodiazepines (*tranquillisers and sleeping tablets including Temazepam*)

Description:

Comes in tablets, capsules and injectable form.

Commonly called:

Eggs, Jelly Babies, Rugby Balls.

Physical Symptoms:

Tiredness and drowsiness; excessive emotional responses; aggression; unusual behaviour; slurred speech; confusion; unsteadiness.

Look for:

Tablets and capsules of various colours - green and yellow for Temazepam; needles and syringes.



Dangers:

Death from overdose; worsened depression; death due to respiratory failure; HIV/hepatitis if shared injecting.



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Cannabis (*Marijuana, Hashish*)

Description:

Comes in resinous lumps, leaves, stalks and seeds or as a concentrated oil. Smoked or taken orally.

Commonly called:

Pot, Grass, Wacky Baccy, Hash, Ganja, Hash Oil, Blow.

Physical Symptoms:

Lack of coordination; red eyes; dilated pupils; increase in heart rate; irrelevant giggling.

Look for:

Butt ends (roach) of hand-rolled cigarettes (joint); strong smell of burning leaves; large cigarette papers.

Dangers:

Coordination and reaction time impaired; dangerous to drive under the influence; anxiety and illusions; possible psychological changes; damage to lungs as tobacco.



Cocaine

Description:

Comes in crystalline white powder form.

Commonly called:

Coke, Snow, Charlie.

Physical Symptoms:

Increased alertness; euphoria; increased pulse rate and blood pressure; dilated pupils.

Look for:

Folded wraps of paper; syringes and needles; handbag mirrors and razor blades; straw for sniffing or snorting.

Dangers:

Hallucinations; agitation; paranoia; convulsions; possible death; addiction; HIV/hepatitis if shared injecting.



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Crack

Description:

Crystallised form of cocaine. Illegally manufactured. Can be smoked, usually using a water pipe.

Physical Symptoms:

Rapid onset of symptoms as for cocaine; extreme euphoria; loss of self-control; dilated pupils; agitation; aggressive behaviour.

Look for: Paper wraps; small plastic bags; water pipes.

Dangers: Highly addictive; depression of respiratory centre; direct toxic action on heart - can be fatal.



Glues and Solvents

Description: Glues, cleaning fluids, aerosols, lighter fuel (gas), chemical solvents, paint stripper etc.

Physical Symptoms: Rash around nose and mouth; stomach cramps; uncoordinated movements; aggressive behaviour, drunk behaviour; inflamed eyes.

Look for: Empty tubes or cans; plastic bags with traces of glue in them; strong chemical smell; traces of substance on clothing.

Dangers: Hallucinations/illusions; danger of psychological dependence; possible damage to lungs and heart, kidneys and liver and central nervous system; death by suffocation; accidents; or direct toxic effect on the heart.

Heroin

Description: Can be injected, smoked or sniffed.

Commonly called: H, Horse, Scag, Smack, Stuff.

Morphine

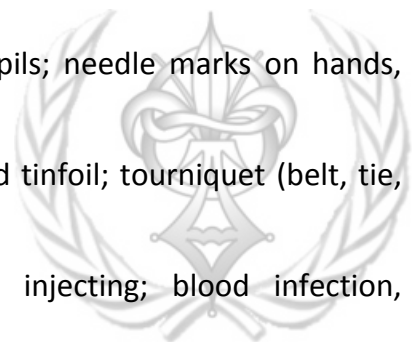
Comes in tablet and powder forms.

Commonly called: Morph, White Stuff, M.

Physical Symptoms: Euphoria; drowsiness; contracted pupils; needle marks on hands, arms, legs or feet; blood stains on clothing or bedding.

Look for: Wraps of paper; syringes and needles; blackened tinfoil; tourniquet (belt, tie, or string); bent spoons; spent matches; bottle caps.

Dangers: Accidental overdose; HIV/hepatitis if shared injecting; blood infection, abscesses; malnutrition; addiction.



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L.S.D.

Description:

Comes in very small tablet form. Small squares of impregnated paper. Liquid (colourless and odourless).

Commonly called:

Acid, Tabs.

Physical Symptoms:

Perceptual changes - especially to sight and sound; illusions and hallucinations; paranoid delusions; dilated pupils.

Look for:

Small tablets or squares of paper; occasional limb trembling and shivering; expressions of fear and anxiety.

Dangers:

Unpredictable behaviour; flashback; recurrence of trip even though no LSD has been taken for some time; accidents while under the influence of drug; long term psychological effects in some cases; adverse experiences - "Bad Trips", "The horrors".



MDMA

Description:

A very powerful amphetamine-based drug having hallucinogenic properties. Comes in tablet or capsule form. Taken by mouth.

Commonly called:

Ecstasy, E, Adam, XTC, Fantasy.

Physical Symptoms:

Abundant energy; increased colour perception; thirst; enhanced empathy.

Look for:

Excessive drinking, water or cola during high; tablets - various colours.

Dangers:

Extremely dangerous to diabetics; possible damage to brain cells; anxiety; panic; confusion; insomnia; psychosis; and hallucinations.

