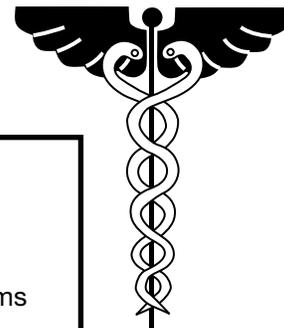


HALLUCINOGENS



Facts About Drugs

WHAT THEY ARE

Names: cannabis (THC, marijuana), LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide, blotter, tile, windowpane, acid), peyote (mescaline), MDA (methylenedioxyamphetamine), MDMA (XTC, Ecstasy, Adam), PCP (phencyclidine), PMA (paramethoxyamphetamine, death drug), STP (DOM), TMA (trimethoxyamphetamine), psilocybin (magic mushroom, shroom), fly agaric mushroom (amanita muscaria), atropine alkaloids, DMT (dimethyltryptamine), harmaline, ketamine

Type: hallucinogens, psychotomimetic, psychedelic

Forms: natural plant derivations, partial and total synthetics as powders, solutions, pills, vapors

Usage: sniffed (snorted); injected into bloodstream (mainlining), muscle or under skin (skin popping); smoked; swallowed; applied to membrane surfaces; cooked into foods; chewed

Legal Status: illegal except for licensed research, medical applications and ritual use of peyote by the Native American Church

Other Forms: ketamine is injected as anesthetic; atropinic alkaloids control spasms, gastrointestinal problems, salivary and lung secretions, parkinsonism; dilate pupils for eye exam; prevent motion sickness

WHAT THEY FEEL LIKE

unpredictable alterations of mood, thought and perceptions of time, space and self; produces vivid distortions of all senses ranging from extreme excitement and joy to absolute terror in the same session and varying from session to session; sensory experiences may combine so that what is heard is also seen; initial episodes are sometimes negative, a "bad trip" depending upon drug, episodes last from minutes to days, effects from hours to weeks

WHAT THEY DO

To Your Mind: disrupt and/or dissociate mental process

To Your Body: may disrupt various systems from altered heart rate to convulsions

Special Characteristics: All drugs in this category produce unpredictable effects. Risk is increased by deliberate mislabeling.

HOW THEY CAN HURT YOU

- Many illegally manufactured hallucinogens are sold on the street as substitute drugs, creating unpredictable risks for buyers. Effects are individual to each user. Psychic and physical reactions are not predictable. Depression can be mild or severe. Psychosis can last for months. Flashbacks can recur anytime.
- Death can result from convulsions, poisonous dose levels, bizarre accidents and murder, suicide, driving under the influence, fatal effects of substitution or altered manufacture of drugs and lethal effects of combinations of drugs.
- Unborn children of using mothers may be affected by mental retardation, deformities, heart defects and delayed development.

WHEN TO GET HELP

- Do you think about how and when you're going to use hallucinogens again?
- Is your work or school performance affected?
- Are you having problems with family and friends?
- Are you spending more on drugs than you can afford?
- Do you also use other drugs?

FACT:

All hallucinogens can produce unpredictable, negative effects.