

PCP/ANGEL DUST



Facts About Drugs

WHAT IT IS

Names: phencyclidine, PCP, peace pill, angel dust, crystal, hog, horse tranquilizer, tic, zoot

Type: dissociative anesthetic

Forms: white, crystalline powder (may be colored as sold on the street), soluble in water or alcohol, pills or capsules

Combinations: with LSD; with marijuana, tobacco or parsley as “supergrass,” “killer weed”

Usage: swallowed as liquid, tablet, capsule; sniffed as powder, “snorted;” smoked as sprinkle for marijuana or parsley (joints), tobacco (sherm), mint; injected into bloodstream

Legal Status: illegal

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE

unpredictable, various sensations including dissociation from the environment, euphoria, hallucinations, relaxation, distorted time, space and body sensations; feelings of floating and weightlessness; inability to think or concentrate; anxiety; paranoia; various auditory and visual experiences, as with LSD

WHAT IT DOES

To Your Mind: depresses and stimulates central nervous system

To Your Body: alters speech, coordination, dexterity and vision; induces dizziness and drowsiness; increases heart rate, blood pressure, breathing rate, urinary output; induces sweating and vomiting; causes jerky eye movement that can last for months after a single dose

Special Characteristics: PCP is often sold as a substitute for other drugs, causing panic in unsuspecting users.

HOW IT CAN HURT YOU

- loss of sensation, psychic experiences, states of panic and fear
- bizarre, compulsive and violent behavior
- high and low blood pressure, irregular heartbeat and irregular breathing
- depression, toxic psychosis as aggressive and assaultive behavior and hallucinations
- unborn children of using mothers may be affected by mental retardation, deformities, heart defects and delayed development
- death from stopped breathing, convulsions, brain hemorrhage, kidney failure, drug combinations, fatal accidents

WHEN TO GET HELP

- Do you use PCP at all?
- Do you think about how and when you're going to use PCP again?
- Is your work or school performance affected by your drug use?
- Are you having problems with family and friends?
- Do you spend more on PCP than you can afford?
- Do you use other drugs in addition to PCP?

FACT:
Even in low doses, PCP produces harmful psychological effects. One dose may produce physical effects that last for months.