

Club Drugs Just the Facts



Ecstasy causes some users to grind their teeth. To counter this they suck on baby pacifiers or candy suckers. A painter's mask is used to enhance the effects.

Club Drugs are attractive to youth for their cheap, intoxicating highs, which they mistakenly believe are safe. Unfortunately, most partygoers do not realize the dangers of these drugs. Combinations of any of these club drugs with alcohol can lead to unexpected reactions, including death.

Although tobacco and alcohol are the most common substances found on the club scene, other substances, such as Ecstasy, Herbal Ecstasy, Rohypnol, GHB, Ketamine, and LSD have gained popularity with young people recently.

What is GHB?

A central nervous system depressant that is abused for its intoxicating effects. In 1990, the FDA banned the use of GHB except under the supervision of a physician because of many reports of severe, uncontrollable side effects.

What is Rohypnol?

A strong sedative which is manufactured and distributed by Hoffman-LaRoche. A member of the benzodizepine family, Rohypnol is about ten times the strength of Valium. It is manufactured as small, white tablets with "Roche" inscribed on one side and encircled with "1" or "2" indicating the dose. These tablet markings are commonly found on other Roche pharmaceuticals, and a pattern of abusing any drug made by Roche has also developed. Rohypnol is illegal in the United States.

Ecstasy alone or in combination with physical activity can cause high body temperatures, so water is drunk to rehydrate. Body temperatures have been measured as high as 110 degrees. The body temperature of one user was 104 degrees two hours after death.

What is Ecstasy?

A stimulant that combines the properties of methamphetamine or "speed" with mind altering properties. Considered the most commonly used club drug, many different recipes are used to manufacture Ecstasy, and as a result, quality and purity can not be guaranteed. Ecstasy is illegal in the United States.

What is LSD?

A potent hallucinogen derived from ergot, a fungus that grows on grains. Commonly referred to as "acid," a "hit" or "dose" can be found as tablets, capsules, liquid form, think squares of gelatin, or absorbed on colorful paper to be licked. "Blotter acid," or paper soaked in LSD and sold as squares, can be obtained for a "Trip" that lasts three to 12 hours. LSD is illegal in the United States.

Just The Facts

COMMON NAMES:

X, Adam, MDMA, Stacy, XTC, Herbal Ecstasy, Ritual Spirit, Roach, Rohypnol, Roffies, Run-Trip-and-Fall, Roche, Rib, GHB, Grievous Bodily Harm, Special K, New Ecstasy, Ketamine, LSD, White Lightning, Acid, Microdot, Blue Heaven, Hit.

What is Special K or Ketamine?

A surgical anesthetic whose use is limited to veterinary medicine. Most supplies are diverted from legitimate sources, and Ketamine can be found in liquid form or as a white powder that is snorted or smoked with marijuana or tobacco products.

How is Ecstasy used?

Most often it is found in tablet, capsule, or powder form and is usually consumed orally, although it can also be injected. Ecstasy is sometimes packaged in capsules or generic tablets to imitate prescription drugs.

What are Ecstasy's effects?

It's reported to cause euphoria and intoxication along with hallucinations, depression, paranoid thinking, and violent, irrational behavior. An Ecstasy high can last from two to six hours, with the average "trip" lasting only about three to four hours. Physical reactions can include the following symptoms: loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, blurred vision, increased heart rate and blood pressure, chills, sweating, tremors, insomnia, and convulsions. Additionally, users are at particular risk of heat exhaustion and dehydration with physical exertion, particularly when taken in a dance-party setting.

GHB, which can be clear, is often poured into bottles of water, juice or soda to conceal its use.



How is Rohypnol used?

Usually it is taken orally, although there are reports that it has been ground up and snorted.

What are Rohypnol's effects?

After taking Rohypnol, the user may feel intoxicated, then a sleepy feeling that may last up to eight hours. Rohypnol can cause deep sedation, respiratory distress, blackouts that can last up to 24 hours, and cause short-term amnesia. In some cases, the drug can cause users to become aggressive.

How is GHB used?

It's consumed orally in capsule form or as a grainy, white to sandy colored powder that is dissolved in water or alcoholic beverages. Most frequently it is sold as a slightly salty, clear liquid in small bottles where users pay by the capful or by the teaspoon. Most GHB is created in clandestine laboratories where purity and quality cannot be guaranteed.

What are GHB's effects?

An intoxicated feeling followed by deep sedation. Once ingested, the drug will begin to take effect within 15 minutes to an hour, and the effects may last one to three hours. GHB can cause nausea, vomiting, delusion, depression, vertigo, visual disturbances, seizures, respiratory distress, loss of consciousness, amnesia and coma.

What does LSD do?

The effects of LSD are wildly unpredictable. Users under the influence will have dilated pupils, increased body temperature, increased heart and blood pressure rates, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, dry mouth, tremors, and sweating. A "bad trip" could include terrifying thoughts and feelings, fear of losing control, fear of insanity and death, and flashbacks.

J u s t T h e F a c t s

What are Ketamine's effects?

Users experience profound hallucinations and visual distortions similar to the effects of PCP. They call these effects "K-Land." A larger dose can produce a more frightening experience called a "K-hold" or an "out-of-body, near death experience" that can last from 30 minutes to two hours. Ketamine can cause delirium, amnesia, impaired motor function, high blood pressure, depression, recurrent flashbacks, and potentially fatal respiratory problems.

Is Herbal Ecstasy a safe alternative?

No. Adverse reactions such as high blood pressure, seizures, heart attacks, strokes, and death have been reported to federal authorities. Herbal Ecstasy is a drug composed of ephedrine (ma huang) and caffeine (koala nut), stimulants that closely simulate the effects of Ecstasy. Usually sold in tablet form, there is no quality control over the manufacture of these products, and problems arise because the amounts of ephedrine and caffeine in the pills vary widely.

Who should I contact if someone close to me has a problem with club drugs?

Contact the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse's toll-free hotline at 800.832.9623 or your local Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse for referral assistance. You may also contact your family physician, hospital, or yellow pages for other intervention and treatment options.

Club Drug Risks

- Combining drugs and alcohol can lead to severe addiction.
- Drugs created in clandestine labs may contain dangerous impurities and varying levels of potency.
- Heat exhaustion and dehydration can occur more quickly when dancing is combined with club drugs.

Childrens vitamin containers are used to conceal Ecstasy tablets from unsuspecting persons.



- Some club drugs can cause blackouts or amnesia placing users at risk of sexual assault or other acts.
- Each of the club drugs has caused death.

Narcotics Tip Line 972-941-STOP

City of Plano Police Department
909 14th Street
Plano Texas 75074
www.planopolice.org



Are adolescents and young adults at risk?

One major concern about these club drugs is their widespread use among high school youths, college students, and young adults who frequent night clubs and all-night rave parties. Lured by the availability and intoxicating effects of these drugs, many youths are unaware of the dangers. Rohypnol and GHB, in particular, can cause blackouts and amnesia with place individuals under the influence at risk of sexual assault or other criminal acts. In addition, when young people start using drugs regularly, they often lose interest in school work, which affects academic success as well. Chronic drug use can place students and young adults at risk of dropping out of school or college, loss of employment, and possible encounters with law enforcement.