

Designer Drugs



The term “designer drug” gained widespread use during the 1980s when a wide range of narcotic analogs were being sold as heroin on the black market. Other analogs were based on fentanyl or meperidine. One, MPPP was found in some cases to contain an impurity called MPTP, which caused instant and permanent symptoms like Parkinson’s disease. Other problems were highly potent fentanyl analogs that sold as “china white,” a drug known for causing many accidental overdoses. During this time, MDMA (ecstasy) also experienced a popularity boom.

In response to the exploding number of new “designer drugs” being created, the Controlled Substances Act was amended with the Controlled Substance Analogue Enforcement Act of 1986. This Act made it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess chemicals, which are substantially similar to Schedule I, or II prohibited drugs.

In the late 1990s and early 2000’s, designer drugs were being sold over the internet as “research chemicals” in bulk form as powder, not as pills. Internet suppliers and vendors soon discovered that this did not protect them from prosecution by the DEA.

What Are The Hazards Of Designer Drugs?

- Designer drugs are manufactured by underground “chemists” with little or no quality control.
- Potency varies widely from substance to

What are Designer Drugs?

Designer drugs, are synthetic variations (analogs) of existing drugs that mimic the effects of classic narcotics, stimulants or hallucinogens. By slightly altering the chemical structure of existing drugs, black market “chemists” create new “designer” drugs in an attempt to avoid prosecution for illegal drug trafficking. The number of potential synthetic analogs able to be created and distributed is almost limitless.

substance and batch to batch. Side effects are unpredictable and may be 1000’s of times more powerful than the controlled substance it mimics.

- Research chemicals are new, untested and may only have been used by a few dozen people for a few months.

What Are The Side Effects Of Designer Drugs?

Many designer drugs are highly addictive. Side effects experienced are similar or more intense than the original narcotic, stimulant, or hallucinogen used to create the designer drug.

- High blood pressure
- Increased heart rate
- Impaired speech and vision
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Respiratory depression
- Chills, sweating
- Euphoria
- Confusion, irritability
- Depression, paranoia
- Violent irrational behavior
- Hallucinations
- Amnesia, insomnia

Seizures, Coma and Death!

Well-known Designer Drugs

Early narcotic analogs (fentanyl and meperidine-based):

- AMF, or "China White" on the heroin market
- parafluorofentanyl
- MPPP
- MPTP

Tryptamine-based (hallucinogenic properties):

- 4-Acetoxy-DIPT
- 5-MeO-AMT
- 5-MeO-DIPT ("Foxy" or "Foxy Methoxy")
- AMT
- DIPT
- DPT



ACETOXY



FOXY

Phenethylamine-based (stimulant, hallucinogenic properties)

- 2C-B ("Beautiful")
- 2C-T-7 ("7th Heaven")
- DOB
- MBDB
- MDA
- MDE
- MDEA
- MDMA (Ecstasy)
- MMDA
- PMA (4-MA)
- 4-MTA (Flatliners, Goldeneagle)



MBDB



MDE (RED DEVIL)



ECSTASY

PCP-based (hallucinogenic properties)

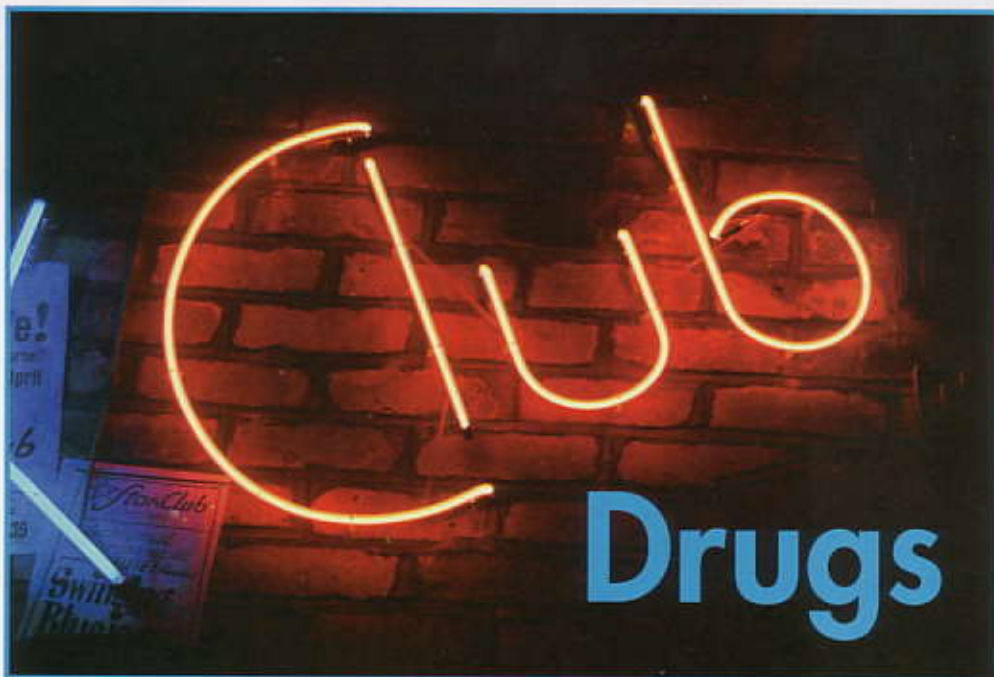
- TCP
- PCE
- PCPP

Other designer drugs:

- BZP
- TFMPP
- GBL both a precursor to and substitute for GHB
- 1,4-Butanediol another GHB analog



TFMPP



Drugs

What are Club Drugs?

Dangerous substances known collectively as "club drugs" refer to a wide variety of drugs commonly used by individuals in a party-like atmosphere.

Club drugs can be found at night clubs, bars, concerts and raves or trance events. Raves and trance events are all night dances held in secret places, such as warehouses. Many party-goers do not use drugs, but those who do may be attracted to the low cost, intoxicating highs, and supposed increase in stamina and sense of feeling that club drugs promise.

According to NIDA, GHB, Rohypnol, Ketamine, Ecstasy, Herbal Ecstasy, Methamphetamine and LSD are among the drugs used by teenagers and adults who are part of the club scene.

What Are The Dangers?

Although users may think of club drugs as harmless, individual reactions are unpredictable. Research shows that club drugs can produce a wide range of unwanted effects, including hallucinations, paranoia, amnesia, and in some cases extreme, even fatal reactions the first time club drugs are used. Party-goers who use club drugs may experiment with a variety of drugs at one time, or combine a drug with alcohol. Combining drugs and alcohol intensifies adverse effects and creates an even more dangerous and unpredictable result. Another danger for



SO-CALLED ECSTASY PILLS MAY INCLUDE METH, EPHEDRINE, COCAINE AND CAFFEINE.

club drug users is the fact that the toxicity and side effects are unpredictable due to uncertainties about the sources, chemicals, and contaminants used in manufacturing the drugs.

Date Rape Drugs

Commonly referred to as "date rape drugs," GHB, Ketamine and Rohypnol are central nervous system depressants. In liquid form, they are often odorless, colorless, tasteless, and can be added into an unsuspecting person's drink. The drug incapacitates the victim and prevents them from resisting assault. The victim can suffer "amnesia," and may not remember events experienced while under the effects of the drug. If you attend parties, nightclubs, or frequent places with large crowds, be aware that some criminals use drugs to incapacitate both men and women not only for the purpose of sexual assault, but also for other criminal acts such as robbery and kidnapping.

DRUG-INDUCED RAPE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT ACT OF 1996

This federal statute provides for penalties up to twenty years in prison for the intent to commit a crime of violence (including sexual assault) against an individual by distribution of a controlled substance to that individual without his or her knowledge.

THE HILLORY J. FARIAS AND SAMANTHA REID DATE-RAPE PROHIBITION ACT OF 1999

The Hillory J. Farias and Samantha Reid Date-Rape Prohibition Act of 1999 was signed into law on February 18, 2000 to modify the schedule of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) to criminalize the manufacture, distribution, or possession of GHB, a "designer drug" associated with date rape and other forms of sexual assault among young adults.



GHB

Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in every region of the country report that GHB appears to be the substance most commonly used in drug-facilitated sexual assaults. GHB (gamma hydroxybutyrate) is abused for its euphoric and powerful sedative effects. Street names include "liquid ecstasy," "easy lay," "vita-G," and "Georgia home boy." GHB is usually taken orally in liquid form, although capsule and tablet form is available. A powdered form of GHB can be snorted. Liquid GHB is salty tasting and is typically mixed into a beverage.

Common low dose effects include relaxation similar to alcohol intoxication, euphoria, reduced inhibitions, and increased sensory stimulation. Higher doses lead to slurred speech, insomnia, sweating, agitation, combativeness, confusion, loss of coordination, seizures, respiratory depression, urinary and fecal incontinence, vomiting, coma and death.

GHB is produced illegally though one prescription form of GHB, Xyrem is available for the treatment of narcoleptic patients who experience episodes of cataplexy, a medical condition in which a person suddenly feels weak and collapses at moments of strong emotion.

Because of tougher criminal penalties and law enforcement efforts the availability of GHB has decreased. Abusers have turned to GHB analogs as substitutes. Two GHB analogs, GBL and BD, are drugs that possess chemical structures closely resembling that of GHB. GHB analogs are available legally as industrial solvents. They are also sold illegally as

supplements for bodybuilding, fat loss, reversal of baldness, depression and many other conditions. GHB analogs are distributed as clear colorless liquids and are consumed orally. GHB analogs are addictive and cause symptoms similar to that of GHB.

Ketamine



Marketed since 1970 as an anesthetic, about 90 percent of the Ketamine legally sold is intended for veterinary use. On the street, Ketamine is often called "special K" or "vitamin K" and is sometimes sold under the name "ecstasy." Found in either powder or liquid form, it can be snorted or injected.

Ketamine creates effects similar to those of PCP or other hallucinogens. Users may experience dream-like states and hallucinations. Low doses of Ketamine produce a relaxed feeling and pleasant weightlessness. In high doses, Ketamine can cause a feeling of separation from the body, delirium, amnesia, impaired motor function, high blood pressure, depression, and potentially fatal respiratory problems. Like MDMA, Ketamine is commonly mixed with other drugs such as ephedrine, caffeine, or PCP.

Rohypnol



A trade name for flunitrazepam, Rohypnol belongs to a class of drugs known as benzodiazepines which are depressants. When mixed with alcohol, Rohypnol can incapacitate victims and prevent them from resisting assault. It can produce "amnesia," which means individuals may not remember



events experienced while under the effects of the drug. Rohypnol may be lethal when mixed with alcohol and other depressants.

Rohypnol is not approved for use in the United States, and its importation is banned. Illicit use of Rohypnol began in the United States in the early 1990s, where it became known as "rophies," "roofies," "roach," and "rope."

Abuse of two other similar drugs appears to have replaced Rohypnol abuse in some regions of the country. These are clonazepam, marketed in the United States as Klonopin and in Mexico as Rivotril, and alprazolam, marketed as Xanax.



MDMA (ECSTASY)

MDMA, belongs to the amphetamine family and has both stimulant and hallucinogenic properties. While MDMA does not cause true hallucinations, many individuals report distorted time and perception while under the influence of this drug. MDMA is often called "ecstasy," "adam," "clarity," "lovers speed," or "X." MDMA is usually taken orally and its effects last approximately 3 to 6 hours.

Ecstasy has become a popular drug because of the perceived positive effects that a user experiences within an hour of ingestion. After taking Ecstasy, an individual may have feelings of mental stimulation, emotional warmth, empathy toward others, a general sense of well-being, and decreased anxiety. Because of the drug's stimulant properties, when used in dance settings, Ecstasy can enable users to dance for extended periods. However, some users report undesirable effects immediately, including anxiety, agitation, and recklessness.

Ecstasy has gained a deceptive reputation as a "safe" drug among users. According to the 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, more than 10 million people have tried MDMA at least once.

Yet, studies show a drug that is far from harmless. For example, Ecstasy can cause a dangerous increase in body temperature, heart rate and blood pressure that can lead to heart failure. Many users report other physical side effects such as nausea, chills, fainting, sweating, blurred vision, muscle tension, and rapid eye movement. Ecstasy may cause permanent damage to parts of the brain critical to thinking, memory or pleasure. Many of the psychological problems users encounter are confusion,

PROTECT YOURSELF AT CLUBS!

Club drugs are odorless and colorless and may be easily slipped into a drink at a bar or a party. When added to a drink without a person's knowledge, the drink may not taste or look differently. Be smart! Protect yourself by following these simple guidelines!

- » Attend parties with a group of friends who will watch out for each other.
- » Be on your guard and be aware of your surroundings.
- » Always watch your drink being poured.
- » Never leave your drink unattended.
- » If you do leave your drink, don't go back to it. Get a new drink.
- » If you start feeling strange, tell someone you trust.

Know your limits! Over indulging in alcohol can make you an easy target!

depression, insomnia, anxiety, and paranoia.

Many Ecstasy tablets contain not only MDMA but a number of other drugs that are harmful. Tablets purchased on the street may include methamphetamine, caffeine, cough suppressants, diet pills, ephedrine, and cocaine.