



The Drugs Kids Use

Drug/Street Names	How Long It Lasts	Health Effects	Signs and Symptoms
Alcohol	1 – 12 hours	Causes depression, aggression, blurred speech, muscular incoordination. Frequent use can lead to cirrhosis of liver, pancreatitis, brain disorders, vitamin deficiencies & malnutrition.	Puffiness of face, redness of eyes, depression, disorientation, shallow respiration, nausea, cold and clammy skin. Dehydration.
Marijuana/pot, reefer, grass, THC, hash, hash oil	2 – 4 hours	Can impair memory perception & judgment by destroying brain cells. Raises blood pressure. Contains more known carcinogens than cigarettes.	Euphoria, relaxed inhibitions, disoriented behavior, staring off into space, hilarity without cause, time distortion. Bloodshot eyes, dry mouth & throat.
Barbiturates, yellow jalcets, red devils, ludes, Methaqualone/Quaaludes	1 – 16 hours	Can cause slurred speech; staggering gait; poor judgment, and slow, uncertain reflexes. Large doses can cause unconsciousness and death.	Slurred speech, disorientation, drunken behavior with no odor of alcohol. Sedation.
Cocaine/coke, snow, blow, gold dust, lady	½ - 2 hours	Causes dilated pupils, increased blood pressure, heart rate, breathing rate & body temperature. Can cause seizures, heart attacks and death.	Apathy, anxiety, sleeplessness, paranoia, hallucinations, craving for more cocaine. Weight loss. Constant sniffing.
Crack Cocaine/crack, rock	5 – 10 min.	More intense cocaine is getting to the brain quicker, increasing risks of cocaine use.	Same as cocaine.
Amphetamines/uppers, speed, black beauties, dexies	½ - 2 hours	Increases heart rate, breathing rate, blood pressure. High doses can cause tremors, loss of coordination & death from stroke or heart failure. Frequent use of large amounts can produce brain damage, ulcers and malnutrition.	Decreased appetite, dilated pupils, sleeplessness, agitation, unusual increase in activity.
PCP (phencyclidine)/angel dust, killer weed, crystal cyclone, elephant	Variable	Increased heart rate and blood pressure. Large doses can cause convulsions, comas, heart & lung failure and ruptured	Sweating, dizziness, numbness, hallucinations, confusion, agitation. Violence and aggression or silence &

tranquilizer, rocket fuel		brain vessels. Users may show long-term effects on memory, judgment, concentration & perception.	withdrawn state.
Heroin/Mexican brown, China white, Persian porcelain, "H"	12 – 24 hours	Repeated use can lead to infections of heart lining & valves, skin abscesses & congested lungs. Can lead to convulsions, coma & death.	Watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, loss of appetite, tremors, irritability, panic chills, sweating, cramps, nausea.
Gas & Glue/Rush, Locker Room, aerosol cans, amyl nitrate, gasoline, markers, lighter fluid (inhaled through a saturated cloth or in a bag covering nose and mouth.)	Variable	Brain damage occurs when used over a long period of time. All these chemicals carry considerable risk, particularly of cardiac arrhythmia.	Very alert, keen senses, hallucinations, dizziness, scrambled words & disconnected sentences. Smells like whatever the child was doing.
Hallucinogens/LSD, Mescaline, Peyote, mushrooms	3 – 12 hours	Dilated pupils, nausea, increased blood pressure, hallucinations, stomach cramps, blackouts. Flashbacks, a recurrence of the drug effects, may be a problem for some.	Beady eyes, nervous, erratic behavior, laughing, crying, personality changes, "sees" smells, "hears" colors. Marked depersonalization.
MDMA/Adam, Ecstasy, X-TC (A Designer Drug: structural analogs of controlled substances.)	Variable up to days	Increased heart rate & blood pressure. Blurred vision, chills, sweating. Believed to cause permanent brain damage.	Confusion, depression, sleep problems, anxiety, paranoia, muscle tension, involuntary teeth clenching, nausea.
Pharmaceuticals such as Ritalin, Hydrocodone, OxyContin, Morphine, Vicodin, Codeine, Demerol, Darvocet	Variable	Can cause respiratory depression, low blood pressure, nausea, vomiting, sedation, coma, decreased respiration, lethargy, mental confusion, fever, fast heart rate, increased blood pressure, seizures	Alterations in mood, erratic behavior, mental cloudiness, confusion, inability/excess sleep, anxiety, hyperactive, increased alertness, suicidal tendencies, alterations in physical outlook.
Salvia divinorum Magic Mint, Ska Maria Pastora or Sally D	2-48 hours	Repeated use can cause lung damage such as cancer, emphysema, bronchitis, stroke and cardiovascular disease.	