

# ecstasy?



why is it dangerous for the health?

## what is this?

Ecstasy (or MDMA) is a psychoactive substance which works directly on the brain. It is a combination between a hallucinogenic (provokes hallucination) and amphetamine (produces excitement). It is mostly consumed in the form of tablets, capsules, and also in soluble powder.

## effects

Ecstasy works by creating abnormal stimulation on the nervous system, produces excitement and at the same time distorts reality. Generates a sense of empathy (increased communication capability), alters the sensations, perception, behavior and at the same time provokes detached feeling, disturbance in sensory perception reaching a psychotic state with hallucination for a duration of couple of hours and pronounced insomnia.

## damages

The damages derived / incurred by the use of ecstasy concern above all the brain, of which function may be severely impaired even after the first time consumption; irreversible cerebral lesions, apart from a connective deficit amongst which loss of ability to understand, memorization, and judgment. Its use may also interfere with the body's capacity to regulate its temperature, causing serious medical damage and in some cases causing death. May cause serious damage to the liver, cardiac problems, epilepsy and asthma. Consumption during pregnancy may cause irreversible damage to the fetus. If mixed with alcohol becomes even more dangerous due to the damages mentioned above become even more serious and increased apart from the probability to cause road accident. Ecstasy creates addiction.

## license

Use of these drugs is illegal. Your license can be withdrawn, the vehicle confiscated with heavy fine, the fact brought to the notice of the prefect and your passport withdrawn if you are caught driving a vehicle after their use.

# cocaine?



why is it dangerous for the health?

## what is this?

Cocaine is a psychoactive substance extracted from coca plant, which grows mainly in south America, some parts of Africa and united states of America.

## effects

It interferes profusely with the normal cerebral system and on dopamine an important substance of the brain) creates an abnormal effect and gravely dangerous which the person perceives extremely enjoyable and stimulating. Creates an effect of excitement and causes increased aggressiveness. After consumption gives a false sense of immediate and excessive efficiency, of vigilance, and of security. The effects are particularly dangerous if one drives due to the effect created by it, inducing a sense of overvaluation of one's capability and causes blurred vision. To the brief state of excitement sub enters a sensation deep depression and uncomfortable mental state.

## damages

The use of cocaine brings about a series of serious health risk; cardiovascular problems, like irregular heartbeats, lung problem with pain in the chest, and respiration arrest; neurological effects which produce embolism, convulsions, headache, gastro intestinal complications which cause abdominal pain and nausea. In a brief time you get addicted and have a ever stronger urge to consume it to the point that it becomes difficult to give it up. The strong and immediate urge to use it induces a need to commit a crime to get hold of it. In time one can determine a increased sense of anxiety, tremors, irritability, disturbed sleep, panic attack, excessive suspicion and paranoid ideas of being treated unjustly.

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# heroin?



why is it dangerous for the health?

## what is this?

It is a synthetic substance with a strong effect as painkiller. It is extracted from opium and is similar if not more potent than morphine. It is present in the form of powder or small granules with colors ranging from white to light maroon. May be inhaled in form of vapor, smoked or injected in the vein's or in the muscles.

## effects

Interferes with the normal functioning of the endorphin in the nervous system which is important for the functioning of mind. Has a sedative effect on the nervous system, provoking a false perception for a short time, inducing a sense of wellbeing and reduction of anxiety and pain. After the immediate effect follows the fogging of mind with reduction of respiratory and heart rate. Heroin leads to addiction right from the beginning in which ever form it is taken and giving rise to withdrawal symptoms if not reutilized after a short period of time.

## damages

After a brief use (even if inhaled) it creates a strong addiction (with an urge to constantly increase the dosage to achieve the same effect), withdrawal symptom (sweating, chills, cramps, vomit, abdominal pain, agitation with alteration of normal brain function along with the loss of sense of judgment and inhibitions) if its use is interrupted or discontinued, strong psychological desire for its use. Heroin if injected is very dangerous as it is immediately absorbed and may lead to arrest of brain center connected to respiration, leading to immediate death (over dose). Exchange of needles poses a grave risk for transmittable diseases like HIV/AIDS or hepatitis.

## license

L'uso di eroina è illegale. Se guidi l'auto, la moto o il motorino dopo l'uso di droga, le Forze dell'Ordine possono ritirarti la patente, sequestrarti il veicolo, darti una grossa multa, segnalarti alla Prefettura e ritirarti persino il passaporto.

# tobacco?



why is it dangerous for the health?

## what is this?

Tobacco smoke is a potent cocktail of various substances which cause damage to the body. The main component is nicotine, a dense liquid present in the tobacco leaf, responsible for the addiction and the negative effects on the cardiovascular system and on central nervous system. Apart from this, many other toxic substances are present in tobacco which can lead to cancer, like: carbon oxide, nitrogen oxide, formaldehyde, ammonia, phenols, tar, arsenic, cadmium, benzene, hydrocarbons etc.

## effects

Nicotine once inhaled is rapidly absorbed by the lungs, making its presence in the blood stream and reaching the brain rapidly. Has effects on whole of the body: on the heart by increasing the heart rate and blood pressure. On the nervous system dealing with respiration, on the brain by stimulating a sense of enjoyment and gratification with increase of dopamine quantity present in the brain. The calming effect reported by smokers is generally due to the reduction of withdrawal symptom's rather than the direct action of the substance on the body.

## damages

Nicotine induces a strong dependence with a strong desire which leads to a constant increase of dosage with the same effects. The damages involve cardiovascular system, respiratory system, digestive system, glands and oral tract. The immediate damages are: cough, cold, dental and gum problems with bad breath, tiredness. The long term damages are: chronic bronchitis, cardiovascular problems, stroke, impotence, lung cancer, mouth cancer, pharynx and larynx cancer, stomach cancer, cancer of pancreas. Pregnant women who smoke provoke a damage to the fetus. In women it induces premature menopause, greater predisposition towards osteoporosis (weak bones), aging of skin.

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## license

The use apart from a sense of enjoyment can induce nausea, anxiety, panic attack and paranoia. Determines reduction of mental capacity with problems like lack of concentration, of memory and understanding with sub-standard reduction in schoolists and working capacity. May diminish your physical capacity with reduction in your sport related activity including any other day to day activity. Scientific studies have shown that the user has difficulty in achieving orgasm. Induces a reduction in the motivation to do things, to face problems and disinterest even seriously towards people and normal chores in life. Cannabis induces dependence; in case of vulnerability of a person may induce serious mental disturbance like schizophrenia, which manifests with delirium, hallucination, loss of sense of reality. If taken before driving a vehicle may reduce in a notable manner the reflexes and the concentration thus increasing the risk of causing accidents and inflict harm to other people. Se mixed with alcohol or other substances the risk is heightened substantially. Induces the need to experiment with other drugs like heroin and cocaine.

## damages

Has mainly a sedative / relaxing effect but in some people has euphoric / stimulating effect. May have effect of altering the sense of perception. Cannabis inhibits the normal functioning of our cerebral system of endocannabinoids that a person usually uses for the coordination of movement, to memorize and for sense of gratification and also to control appetite.

## effects

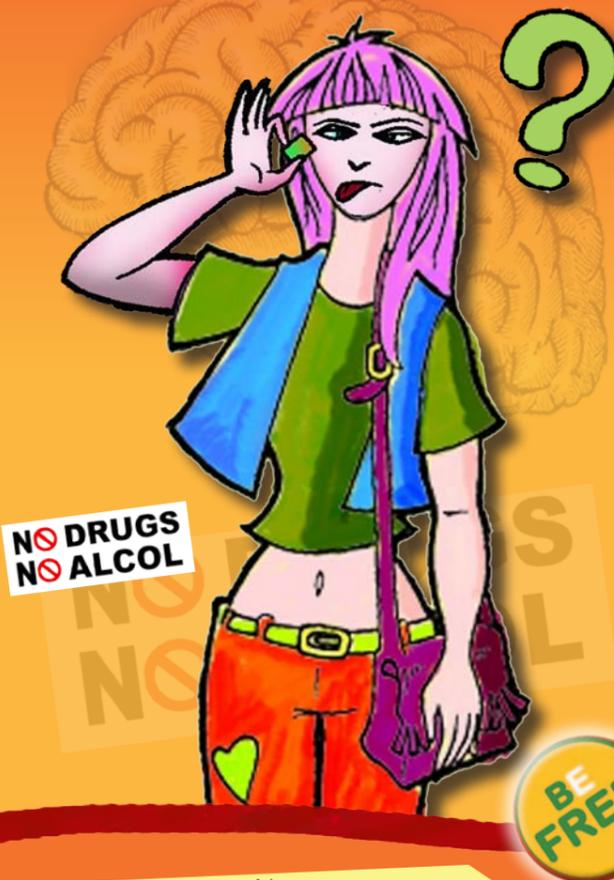
What is extracted from the cannabis plant. The active ingredient is THC or tetrahydrocannabinol which is responsible for the effect on some substances (endocannabinoids) responsible for brain activities important for the life and some dangerous and abnormal stimulation which induce a perceived sense of enjoyment.

## what is this?

Why is it dangerous for the health?



# cannabis?



[www.droganograzie.it](http://www.droganograzie.it)

[www.dronet.org](http://www.dronet.org)

[www.drugfreedu.org](http://www.drugfreedu.org)

# drug?



Make an intelligence choice:

STAY

NO DRUGS  
NO ALCOL

FREE

&

HEALTHY



PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI  
Dipartimento Politiche Antidroga

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Regione del Veneto - Azienda ULSS 20  
Dipartimento delle Dipendenze

# Smart drugs?



why are they so dangerous for your health?

## what are they?

They are psychoactive substances both natural and synthetic; commonly found in beverages, pills or drops. They can be classified into four main categories: caffeine based, natural substances derived from the ephedra plant used in many slimming based, natural products like coffee, tea, cola, guarana, taurine, ephedra pills and athletic enhancers; aphrodisiacs, plants derived products like damiana, ecoris Salvia Divinorum. Even though their use is not currently punishable by the law are dangerous as they impair normal brain functioning and can cause heart and liver problems.

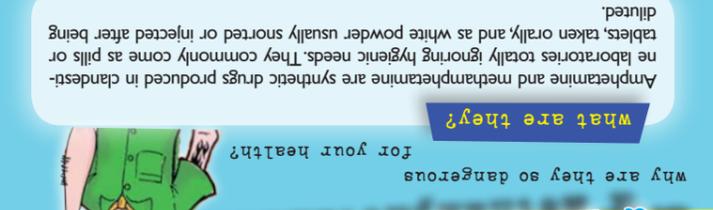
## effects

Caffeine and ephedra based products, along with aphrodisiacs have dangerous stimulants effects on your nervous system, while eco-drugs produces mainly harmful distortion symptoms with altered perception of danger and hallucinations. The most common side effects are: nausea, vomiting, anxiety and palpitations.

## damage

The use of these psychoactive substances involves short and long-term harmful withdrawal symptoms, cardiovascular problems with risk of stroke and heart attack have been reported. Their potential for addiction is also well-known.

# amphetamines & methamphetamine



why are they so dangerous for your health?

## what are they?

Amphetamine and methamphetamine are synthetic drugs produced in clandestine laboratories totally ignoring hygienic needs. They commonly come as pills or tablets, taken orally, and as white powder usually snorted or injected after being diluted.

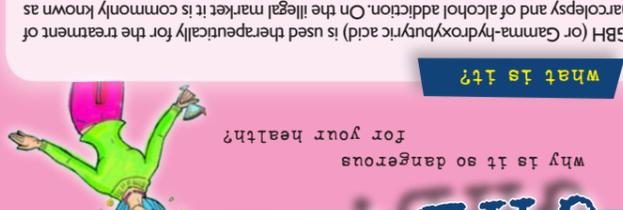
## damage

Amphetamine and methamphetamine lead to addiction. Their use may result in: cardiovascular problems, including irreversible damage to blood vessels in the brain that may cause stroke. These drugs may cause: sudden death even after one use or fatal liver, kidney and lung damage; rapid rise in body temperature with convulsions and coma, and sometimes death. The use over a long period induces paranoia, a mental disorder, that can lead to violent behavior, suicidal and homicidal tendencies. Cells death in the cerebral cortex is also reported.

## driving license

Amphetamine and methamphetamine use is illegal. Driving under their influence can be punished with administrative sanctions such as: fines, suspension of driving licence, suspension of passport, vehicle impoundment, notice to prefectural authorities.

# GHB?



why is it so dangerous for your health?

## what is it?

GBH (or Gamma-hydroxybutyric acid) is used therapeutically for the treatment of narcolepsy and of alcohol addiction. On the illegal market it is commonly known as "date-rape drug" as it is often used to assist sexual assault by making victims lose consciousness and control of their body and by impairing their motor function.

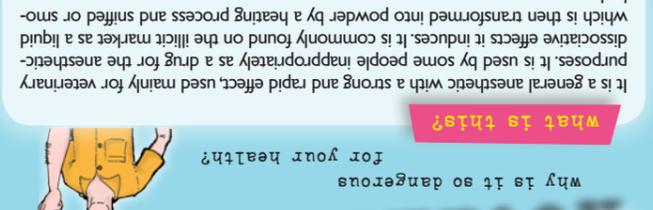
## damage

GHB use may lead in the most serious cases to convulsions, collapse, coma or death. Dizziness, incapacity to react and short term memory loss, that is inability to remember anything occurred in the last few hours, are commonly experienced. The higher is the dosage, the higher is the risk of nausea, vomiting, headache, confusion, respiratory problems and memory deficits. Uncontrollable muscular contractions similar to epileptic seizures are also possible. Apart from these health risks, it is particularly worrying that this substance can be added in an unsuspecting person's beverage and result in sexual violence. A heavy use over a long period may lead to addiction with withdrawal symptoms.

## drug warning

In order to avoid any risk of sexual violence: avoid putting yourself into potential-ly dangerous situations, don't take drinks from strangers, always open your own bottle.

# Ketamina?



why is it so dangerous for your health?

## what is this?

It is a general anesthetic with a strong and rapid effect, used mainly for veterinary purposes. It is used by some people inappropriately as a drug for the aesthetic-which is then transformed into powder by a heating process and sniffed or smoked. It is used by some people inappropriately as a drug for the aesthetic-which is then transformed into powder by a heating process and sniffed or smoked. It is used by some people inappropriately as a drug for the aesthetic-

## damage

Ketamine impairs your brain permanently, especially judgement, attention and memory. In case of vulnerability, it increases the development of mental disorders like acute psychosis and schizophrenia. Its use increases considerably the risk of being involved in accidents and health risk behaviours. If combined with other depressant substances or drugs like alcohol, heroine and barbiturates, it causes cardio-respiratory with unconsciousness and death. If combined with stimulants like ecstasy or amphetamines, it may cause very high blood pressure with the risk of stroke or heart attack. It leads to addiction with craving and need to increase the dosage to achieve the same effects, despite the potential damage.

# anabolic steroids?



why are they so dangerous for your health?

## what are they?

Anabolic steroids are synthetic substances with an action similar to androgens, used by healthy people as performance-enhancing drugs and to improve physical appearance by building muscles. Normally these are taken orally or injected into the body.

## effects

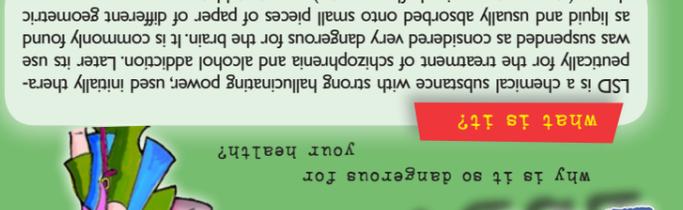
Anabolic steroids, if not taken for medical purposes, can have damaging effects in all parts of the body. As they have mostly an anabolic effect, they can cause an abnormal growth of the skeletal muscle and impairs the development of male sexual characteristics.

## damage

Its use, without medical prescription, is not allowed, besides being highly discouraged. Health dangers associated with anabolic steroids abuse are:

- Hormonal system disruptions: breast enlargement, shrinking of the testicles and impotence in men and boys; breast reduction, deepening of the voice, growth of excessive body hair and loss of scalp hair in women and girls.
- Musculoskeletal system effects: premature and permanent termination of growth among adolescents.
- Cardiovascular diseases: heart attack and stroke.
- Liver diseases.
- Skin diseases: acne and cysts.
- Infections: HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and C in injecting steroid use.
- Behavioral effects: depression, increased aggressive behaviour, mood swings, addiction withdrawal symptoms like craving, insomnia and restlessness when steroid abuse is stopped.

# LSD?



why is it so dangerous for your health?

## what is it?

LSD is a chemical substance with strong hallucinating power, used initially therapeutically for the treatment of schizophrenia and alcohol addiction. Later its use was suspended as considered very dangerous for the brain. It is commonly found as liquid and usually absorbed onto small pieces of paper of different geometric shapes (stamps, stars, animals, flowers etc.) or onto tablets.

## damage

LSD use interferes deeply with normal brain functioning, causing strong panic attacks and, quite often, permanent and irreversible psychological damage even after one use only. Sometimes hallucinations can occur even after a few days from the use (residual effects) in any sort of situation, while being with people, but also while driving a vehicle etc. It is clear how potentially dangerous this last situation, as well as other circumstances requiring attention and concentration, could be. LSD can lead to death directly by acute intoxication and kidney and cardio-circulatory failure and often indirectly due to some fatal accidents induced by drug hallucinations.

## driving license

LSD use is illegal. Driving under its influence can be punished with administrative sanctions such as: fines, suspension of driving licence, suspension of passport, vehicle impoundment, notice to prefectural authorities.

# STAY HEALTHY



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## what is it?

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## effects

These medications, if taken responsibly, according to prescription, are highly beneficial treatments for a variety of health conditions. When abused, that is taken without prescription or in a manner or dosage other than was prescribed, they can impair brain functioning producing serious adverse health effects, and induce

## damage

Opioid abuse can cause: physical and psychological dependence, respiratory depression tremors, considerable increase in body temperature, cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Central nervous system depressants abuse can produce: ataxation, fainting, difficulty of movement, and even death by overdose. Stimulants abuse can lead to: heart attack, hallucinations, depression with loss of enthusiasms and interest, cardiac arrest.

www.droganonline.it  
www.drogaset.org  
www.drogatreeudn.org