

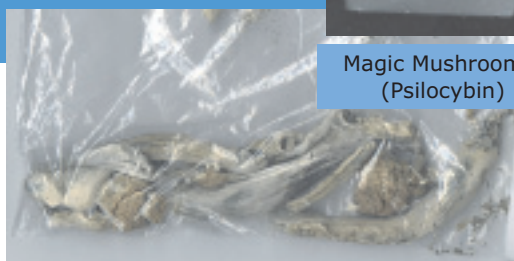
Just The Facts

COMMON NAMES:

LSD, Acid, White Lightning, Microdot, PCP, Angel Dust, Crystal, Wack, Fry, Water-Water, Special K, Ketamine, Jet Fuel, Morning Glory Seeds, Mushrooms, Shrooms, Boomers, DMT, Jimson Weed



Magic Mushrooms.
(Psilocybin)



Are there other hallucinogens?

Yes. Mescaline Morning Glory seeds, Jimson weed, and DMT are hallucinogens that are less common. Mescaline comes from the Peyote cactus and is usually smoked or swallowed in pill form. Morning Glory seeds are occasionally brewed into a tea or eaten. The seeds can cause convulsions, gangrene, and adverse psychological effects. Jimson weed or Angel's trumpet is a wild, poisonous weed that produces hallucinations and has caused death. DMT is another psychedelic drug that acts like LSD.

How are PCP and Ketamine used?

Among drug users, PCP and Ketamine can be found as a pure white, crystal-like powder, or bitter tasting, clear liquid that is consumed orally, injected, sniffed, or smoked on tobacco or marijuana products. PCP is also found in tablet or capsule form. A study in Houston reported the use of "fry", the marijuana and tobacco products dipped in PCP-laced embalming fluid and smoked.

LSD blotter paper. Each stamp is saturated with enough LSD to produce effects lasting 5-12 hours.



What are hallucinogen's emotional effects?

They profoundly effect the mind by altering sensations and emotions. Users may feel several different emotions at once or experience dramatic mood swings. These drugs can cause sensory disturbances, such as delusions and hallucinations. They may also allow users to "hear" colors and "see" sounds. Users may even experience flashbacks up to a year thereafter, where they feel the drug's effects without taking the drug.

What are hallucinogens' physical effects?

The effects of hallucinogens are widely unpredictable depending on the potency, dose, the user's mood, surroundings, and personality. The first effects may be felt within 30 to 90 minutes, and last up to 12 hours depending on the type and amount of drug taken. Individuals under the influence may have dilated pupils, increased heart rate and blood pressure, incoherent speech, sweating, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, dry mouth, and tremors. Users who combine drugs or overdose can go into convulsions, a coma, or heart and lung failure and may even die.

What is a "bad trip"?

A bad trip indicates a bad psychological reaction to a psychedelic drug, and it is relatively common. Users may experience panic, confusion, paranoia, anxiety, feelings of helplessness, loss of control, depression, and frightening out-of-body experience occasionally, these feelings and emotions cause unpredictable, violent, or suicidal behavior leading to serious injury or death. PCP and Ketamine, in particular, can cause a decreased awareness of touch and pain that can result in self-inflicted injuries. The use of hallucinogens can also unmask mental or emotional problems like depression or schizophrenia.

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What are the long-term effects?

Research has shown changes in the mental functions of some chronic LSD users, but it is not known whether those changes are permanent. Some users develop signs of brain damage, such as memory problems, short attention span, mental confusion, and difficulty thinking. Chronic PCP users report memory and speech difficulties, and hearing sounds and voices that do not exist. PCP-induced mental disturbances may be temporary or may last for days or weeks.

Is it possible to become addicted?

Although most hallucinogens do not normally cause addiction, they do build tolerance quickly, requiring larger amounts of the drug to get "high." The risks of adverse reaction and overdose increase as users take larger amounts of the drug to get high. PCP and Ketamine, on the other hand, may cause dependence, an intense craving for the drug.

Are adolescents at-risk?

Yes. Adolescents are at risk of adverse reactions from hallucinogen use as they enter puberty, a time of rapid physical and emotional changes. Because memory, perception, and judgment are clouded under the influence, users are at risk of severe injuries, overdose, and death from drowning, burns, falls, and car accidents.

How long do LSD and PCP remain in the body?

LSD has a half-life of four hours, and most of the drug is eliminated rather quickly. PCP, on the other hand, can be detected in the urine from 1-7 days for a single use, much longer for chronic use.

Make a difference!

Encourage involvement in extracurricular activities. Get involved with your child's school. Research shows that the more parents are involved, the less likely their children will be to experiment with drugs. Let your children know you disapprove of using drugs. Most children don't know what their parents think.

What can parents and communities do?

Before reaching adolescence, youth need to receive the support, guidance, and opportunities to develop healthy bonds with parents, schools, and communities. Parents can help by becoming informed and talking to their teenagers about drug use. Participation in extracurricular activities, the expression of parental disapproval of using drugs, and parental attendance at school events are associated with less drug experimentation. Communities can help by decreasing the availability of drugs, promoting drug-free homes and environments, and by supporting drug use prevention programs.

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

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.

Narcotics Tip Line 972-941-STOP

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