

Risks Associated with the use of Controlled Substances

	Drugs	Medical Uses	Physical Dependence	Psychological Dependence	Duration of Effects (in hours)	Usual Methods of Administration	Possible Effects	Effects of Overdose	Withdrawal Syndrome		
NARCOTICS	Opium	Analgesic, anti-diarrheal	High	High	3 - 6	Oral, smoked	Euphoria, drowsiness, respiratory depression, constricted pupils, nausea	Slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, possible death	Watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, loss of appetite, irritability, tremors, panic, chills and sweating, cramps, nausea		
	Morphine	Analgesic, antitussive				Moderate				Moderate	Oral, injected, smoked
	Codeine	Analgesic, antitussive	High	High							Oral, injected
	Heroin	Under investigation			High-Low	High-Low				Variable	Injected, sniffed, smoked
	Hydro-morphone	Analgesic									Oral, injected
	Meperidine (Pethidine)	Analgesic									
	Methadone	Analgesic, heroin substitute									
Other Narcotics	Analgesic, anti-diarrheal, antitussive										
DEPRESSANTS	Choral Hydrate	Hypnotic	Moderate	Moderate	5 - 8	Oral	Slurred speech, disorientation, drunken behavior without odor of alcohol	Shallow respiration, cold and clammy skin, dilated pupils, weak and rapid pulse, coma, possible death	Anxiety, insomnia, tremors, delirium, convulsions, possible death		
	Barbiturates	Anesthetic, anti-convulsent, sedative, hypnotic	High-Moderate	High-Moderate	1 - 16	Oral, injected					
	Glutethimide	Sedative, hypnotic	High	High	4 - 8						
	Benzodiazepines	Anti-anxiety, anti-convulsent, sedative, hypnotic	Low	Low							
	Other Depressants	Anti-anxiety, sedative, hypnotic	Moderate	Moderate							
STIMULANTS	Cocaine	Local anesthetic	Possible	High	1 - 2	Sniffed, injected, smoked	Increased alertness, excitation, euphoria, increased pulse rate and blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, major psychiatric complications	Agitation, rapid heartbeat, shortness of breath, high body temperature, hallucinations, convulsions, coma, possible death	Apathy, long periods of sleep, irritability, depression, disorientation		
	Anphetamines	Hyperkinesia, narcolepsy, weight control			2 - 14	Oral, injected, smoked					
	Phenmetrazine				2 - 4					Oral	
	Methyphenidate										
	Other Stimulants										
HALLUCINOGENS	LSD	None	None	Degree unknown	8 - 12	Oral	Illusions and hallucinations, poor perception of time and distance	Longer, more intense "trip" episodes, psychosis, possible death	Withdrawal syndrome not reported		
	Mescaline and Peyote		Unknown	High	Up to days	Oral, injected					
	Amphetamine Variants										
	Phencyclidine	Veterinary anesthetic	Degree Unknown	Degree unknown	Variable	Smoked, oral, injected					
	Phencyclidine Analogs	None	None								
	Other Hallucinogens										
CANNABIS	Marijuana	Under investigation	Degree unknown	Moderate	2 - 4	Smoked, oral	Euphoria, relaxed inhibitions, increased appetite, disoriented behavior	Fatigue, paranoia, possible psychosis	Insomnia, hyperactivity, and decreased appetite occasionally reported		
	Tetrahydrocannabinol	Control nausea & vomiting for Cancer Chemotherapy									
	Hashish	None									
	Hashish Oil										