

A close-up photograph of numerous pills and capsules of various colors (red, yellow, blue, green, white, orange) and shapes (round, oval, rectangular) scattered across a light-colored, slightly textured surface. The pills are in sharp focus in the foreground, while those in the background are blurred.

The Nature of **DRUG** and **DRUG ABUSE**

Frequently
Asked
Questions

What is a DRUG?

A photograph of various drugs on a black surface. In the background, a white pill bottle lies on its side. In the foreground, there is a large pile of white powder, two orange pills, and a pile of brown granules.

- **Drug**

- a chemical substance that brings about *physical, emotional, or behavioral change* in a person taking it.

How are DRUGS taken?

A collage of drug-related items on a black background. On the left, a glass filled with amber liquid. In the center, a blister pack containing orange and green capsules. In the bottom left, a syringe with blue liquid. In the bottom right, a knife with white powder.

1. Ingestion

2. Inhalation

3. Injection

4. Used as suppository

5. Applied topically

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small metal spoon filled with a white, powdery substance. The hand is positioned over a light-colored tiled floor. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating soft shadows. The overall tone of the image is somber and clinical.

When are DRUGS harmful?

Drugs are harmful when taken in excess. Some drugs can be harmful if taken in dangerous combinations or taken by hypersensitive person in ordinary or small amounts.



Why do **PEOPLE** turn to **DRUGS**?

- **"Medicines"** can solve problems.
- Widespread access to various drugs.
- **"Peer Pressure"**

- Notion: **Drugs give enjoyment to users, to the point that it is used as an alcoholic substitute.**



What is DRUG ABUSE?

The use of chemical substance, forbidden or not forbidden, which results in an individual's physical, mental or social impairment.
Refers to the following:

1. Using, without benefit or prescription, useful drugs which have the capacity to alter moods.
2. Using drugs and substances for a purpose different from the one for which the drug has been prescribed;
3. Using drugs and substances having no legitimate medical application for purpose other than research.



Products other than drugs ever abused:

- Substances like:

Glue, paint thinner, gasoline and other
breathable solvents

(contains a variety of dangerous chemicals)

**NOTE: They should be sold and used
with caution.**



Types of DRUGS

Drugs that are commonly used, depending on pharmacological effects, may be classified into:

- **STIMULANTS:** increase alertness and physical disposition.
ex: amphetamine, cocaine, caffeine, nicotine
- **HALLUCINOGENS:** affects sensation, thinking, self-awareness and emotion. Changes in time and space perception, delusions, and hallucinations.
ex: LSD, Mescaline, Marijuana
- **SEDATIVES:** reduce anxiety and excitement.
ex: Barbiturates, Tranquilizers, Alcohol
- **NARCOTICS:** relieve pain and often induce sleep.
ex: Opium: Morphine, Heroine, Codeine



DRUG ABUSER

It is difficult to come up with an accurate profile of a drug abuser that can be applied to all because people are different in many ways.



How can you tell one is **ABUSING DRUGS?**

CHANGES:

Behaviour, appearance and mood. Sudden changes occur in the person's disposition from pleasant to unpleasant.



Thus, he:

1. Often associated with known *drug abusers*.
2. Irritable, discourteous, defiant and aggressive.
3. Untrustworthy and lacks self-confidence.
4. Unhealthy, unconcerned with good grooming.
5. Low frustration tolerance.
6. Lacks interest in his studies/work.
7. Blames everybody but not himself for his problems.
8. Develops changes in normal capabilities in school/work.
9. Borrows money and steals various items unusually.



Common signs
of
DRUG ABUSE

1. *Injection marks* of an addict



2. Unusual effort made to cover arms in order to hide *needle marks*.

3. *Stealing items* which can be readily sold for cash to support a drug habit.





**4. Change in moods:
depending on the
drug taken.
ex: depressed, becoming
elated or euphoric.**





5. *Association* with known drug abusers.





6. Change from normal capabilities; work habits, efficiency.





7. Change in attendance: work or school





8. Wearing sunglasses constantly at inappropriate times, or to hide constricted pupils, also to compensate for the eye's inability to adjust to sunlight.

"Marijuana causes bloodshot eyes"



9. Poor physical appearance including inattention to dress and personal hygiene.





SAY:

NO!

To DRUGS

