

Central Nervous System Stimulants

Cocaine

Cocaine stimulates the central nervous system. It is physically and psychologically addictive. It can produce psychological dependency—users feel they cannot function without the drug. Its immediate effects include dilated pupils, elevated blood pressure, increased heart rate, elevated body temperature, sleeplessness, and restlessness. At later stages of use, irritability, unpredictability, paranoia, delusions, or violent behavior may occur. Occasional use can cause a stuffy or runny nose; chronic use can cause ulceration of the mucous membrane in the nose. Injecting cocaine with unsterile equipment can transmit HIV, hepatitis, and other infections.

Crack or freebase rock, a concentrated form of cocaine, is extremely potent. Its effects are felt within ten seconds of administration. Physical effects include dilated pupils, increased pulse rate, elevated blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, hoarseness, and parched lips, tongue, and throat. Crack is highly addictive and can produce erratic mood swings. Users may experience five minutes of elation followed by agitation and depression. Preparation of freebase cocaine, which involves the use of highly volatile solvents, can result in fire or explosion.

Cocaine use may lead to death through disruption of the brain's control of heart and respiration.

<u>Type</u>	<u>What is it called?</u>	<u>What does it look like?</u>	<u>How is it used?</u>
Cocaine	Coke Snow Flake Blow Nose candy Big C Snowbird Lady Girl Toot	White crystalline powder often diluted with other ingredients	Inhaled through nose Injected Smoked
Crack cocaine	Crack Freebase rock Rock Cloud 9 Super white	Light brown or beige pellets or crystalline rocks, or dirty-white powdery chunks that resemble coagulated soap, often packaged in small vials	Smoked in a water pipe

Central Nervous System Stimulants (continued)

Other Stimulants

Stimulants can cause increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils, and decreased appetite. In addition, users may perspire, or experience headaches, skin rashes, blurred vision, dizziness, sleeplessness, and anxiety. Extremely high doses can cause rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, loss of coordination, and even physical collapse. An amphetamine injection creates a sudden increase in blood pressure that can result in stroke or heart failure.

In addition to the physical effects, stimulant users report feeling restless, anxious, irritable, confused, and moody. Higher doses intensify the effects. Persons who use large amounts of amphetamines over a long period of time can develop an amphetamine psychosis that includes hallucinations, delusions, and paranoia. These symptoms usually disappear when drug use ceases.

<u>Type</u>	<u>What is it called?</u>	<u>What does it look like?</u>	<u>How is it used?</u>
Amphetamines	Speed Uppers Ups Black beauties Pep pills Copilots Hearts Benedrine (bennies) Dexadrine (dexies) Biphetamine	Capsules Pills Tablets	Taken orally Injected Inhaled through nose
Methamphetamine	MDMA Crank Crystal meth	White powder or pills Powder Resembles a block of paraffin Resembles ice rocks	Taken orally Injected Inhaled through nose Smoked