

# Drug Categories for Substances of Abuse

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<b>Narcotics</b>	<b>Stimulants</b>	<b>Depressants</b>	<b>Cannabis</b>	<b>Hallucinogens</b>	<b>Alcohol</b>	<b>Steroids</b>
Alfentanil	Amphetamine	Amobarbital	Lorazepam	Bufotenine	Ethyl Alcohol	Dianabol
Cocaine	Benzedrine	Benzodiazepine	Marijuana	LSD	Nandrolone	
Codeine	Benzphetamine	Chloral Hydrate	Tetrahydrocannabinol	MDA		
Crack Cocaine	Butyl Nitrite	Diazepam		MDEA		
Fentanyl	Dextroamphetamine	Glutethimide		MDMA		
Heroin	Methamphetamine	Meprobamate		Mescaline		
Hydromorphone	Methylphenidate	Methaqualone		MMDA		
Ice	Phenmetrazine	Nitrous Oxide		Phencyclidine		
Meperidine		Pentobarbital		Psilocybin		
Methadone		Phenobarbital				
Morphine		Secobarbital				
Nalorphine						
Opium						
Oxycodone						
Propoxyphene						

**Drug Category Profile  
Narcotics**

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Dependence Physical/Psychological</b>	<b>How Used</b>	<b>Duration (hours)</b>
Opium	High/High	Oral, smoked	3 – 6
Morphine	High/High	Oral, smoked, injected	3 – 6
Codeine	Mod./Mod.	Oral, injected	3 – 6
Heroin	High/High	Smoked, injected, sniffed	3 – 6
Hydromorphone	High/High	Oral, injected	3 – 6
Meperidine	High/High	Oral, injected	3 – 6
Methadone	High/High	Oral, injected	12 - 24

**What are Narcotics?**

Drugs used medicinally to relieve pain  
High potential for abuse  
Cause relaxation with an immediate “rush”  
Initial unpleasant effects – restlessness, nausea

**Possible Effects**

Euphoria  
Drowsiness, respiratory depression  
Constricted (pin-point) pupil

**Symptoms of Overdose**

Slow, shallow breathing, clammy skin  
Convulsions, coma, possible death

**Withdrawal Syndrome**

Watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, cramps  
Loss of appetite, irritability, nausea  
Tremors, panic, chills, sweating

**Indications of Possible Misuse**

Scars (tracks) caused by injections  
Constricted (pin-point) pupils  
Sniffles, watery eyes, cough, nausea  
Lethargy, drowsiness, nodding  
Syringes, bent spoons, needles, etc.

**Drug Category Profile  
Depressants**

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Dependence Physical/Psychological</b>	<b>How Used</b>	<b>Duration (hours)</b>
Barbiturates	High/ Mod.	Oral	1 – 16
Methaqualone	High/High	Oral	4 – 8
Tranquilizers	High/High	Oral	4 – 8
Chloral Hydrate	Mod./Mod.	Oral	5 – 8
Glutethimide	High/Mod.	Oral	4 – 8

**What are Depressants?**

Drugs used medicinally to relieve anxiety, irritability, tension  
 High potential for abuse, development of tolerance  
 Produce state of intoxication similar to that of alcohol  
 Combined with alcohol, increase effects, multiply risks

**Possible Effects**

Sensory alteration, anxiety, intoxication  
 Small amounts cause calmness, relaxed muscles  
 Larger amounts cause slurred speech impaired judgement,  
 loss of motor coordination  
 Very large does may cause respiratory depression, coma, death  
 Newborn babies of abusers may show dependence,  
 withdrawal symptoms, behavioral problems, birth defects

**Symptoms of Overdose**

Shallow respiration, clammy skin, dilated pupils  
 Weak and rapid pulse, coma, death

**Withdrawal Syndrome**

Anxiety, insomnia, muscle tremors, loss of appetite  
 Abrupt cessation or reduced high dose may cause convulsions, delirium, death

**Indication of Possible Misuse**

Behavior similar to alcohol intoxication (without odor of alcohol on breath)  
 Staggering, stumbling, lack of coordination, slurred speech  
 Falling asleep while at work, difficulty concentrating and dilated pupils

## Drug Category Profile

### Stimulants

Drug	Dependence Physical/Psychological	How Used	Duration (hours)
Cocaine*	Possible/High	Sniffed, smoked, injected	1 – 2
Amphetamines	Possible/High	Oral, injected	2 – 4
Methamphetamine	Possible/High	Oral, injected	2 – 4
Phenmetrazine	Possible/High	Oral, injected	2 – 4
Methylphenidate	Possible/Mod.	Oral, injected	2 – 4
Other Stimulants	Possible/High	Oral, injected	2 – 4
Ice	High/High	Smoked, oral, injected, inhaled	4 - 14

#### What are Stimulants?

Drugs used to increase alertness, relieve fatigue, feel stronger and more decisive; Used for euphoric effects or to counteract the “down” feeling of tranquilizers or alcohol.

#### Possible Effects

Increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils and decrease appetite; high doses may cause rapid or irregular heartbeat, loss of coordination, collapse; may cause perspiration, blurred vision, dizziness, a feeling of restlessness, anxiety, delusions

#### Symptoms of Overdose

Agitation, increase in body temperature, hallucination, convulsion, possible death

#### Withdrawal Syndrome

Apathy, long periods of sleep, irritability, depression, disorientation

#### Indications of Possible Misuse

Excessive activity, talkativeness, irritability, argumentativeness or nervousness  
Increased blood pressure or pulse rate, dilated pupils  
Long periods without sleeping or eating  
Euphoria

\*Cocaine, while classified under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) as a narcotic, is also discussed as a stimulant.