

Effects of Drugs

Alcohol

- Alcohol is a depressant that decreases the function of the Central Nervous System.
- Alcohol can impair coordination, memory, judgment, and decision making
- Alcohol is both physically and psychologically addictive.



Risks and Effects

Short-Term

- Reduced tension
- Poor concentration
- Reduced coordination
- Slurred speech
- Altered emotions
- Vomiting
- Possible death

Long-Term

- Disrupts brain development
- Liver damage
- Risk of heart disease
- Brain cells die
- Unintentional injuries
- Family problems



Walk a straight line

Marijuana



- Marijuana consists of dried and shredded leaves, seeds, stems and flowers from the plant *cannabis sativa*.
- Marijuana is mainly regarded as a hallucinogenic drug.
- Marijuana is a highly psychologically addictive drug.

Risks and Effects

Short-Term

- Distorted perception
- Loss of coordination
- Trouble with thinking and problem solving
- Paranoia and anxiety
- Short-term memory loss

Long-Term

- Damage to lungs
- Fatal accidents
- Depression
- Anxiety

Methamphetamine



- Meth is a highly addictive stimulant that releases the brain chemical dopamine.
- Meth is a very dangerous drug to make, as it contains many chemicals that are harmful to the body.
- Meth can be snorted, smoked, or injected into the bloodstream.

Risks and Effects

Short-Term

- Increased wakefulness
- Decreased appetite
- Irregular heartbeat
- Increased blood pressure

Long-Term

- Anxious and violent behavior
- Tremors
- Scabs and open sores
- Loss of weight
- Prolonged insomnia

Prescription Drugs

- Narcotics/Pain killers
- Stimulants
- Depressants

Risks and Effects - Narcotics

Short Term

- Drowsiness
- Nausea
- Constipation
- Confusion
- Slowed Breathing
- Death

Long Term

- Increased tolerance
- Addiction
 - Withdrawal
 - Severe Restlessness
 - Insomnia
 - Muscle/bone pain
 - Vomiting/Diarrhea
 - Chills

Risks and Effects - Stimulants

Short Term

- Increased alertness/energy
- Increased blood pressure and heart rate
- Narrowed blood vessels
- Increased blood sugar
- In High Doses
 - Dangerously high body temperature
 - Irregular heart rate
 - Heart failure
 - Seizure

Long Term

- Heart Problems
- Psychosis
- Anger
- Paranoia
- Addiction
 - Withdrawal
 - Depression
 - Fatigue
 - Sleep Problems

Risks and Effects - Depressants

Short Term

- Drowsiness
- Slurred Speech
- Decreased concentration
- Problems with balance and coordination
- Slowed breathing

Long Term

- Addiction
 - Withdrawal
 - Depression
 - Seizures
 - Withdrawal must be done with medical provider to prevent serious abstinence syndrome