DRUG FACT SHEET

Hallucinogens & Dissociative Drugs

Some effects of PCP including depression and memory loss may last six months to a year following prolonged daily use.

Class of drug: Hallucinogens (most common form is LSD) Dissociative drugs (most commonly form is PCP)

Main active ingredient: Hallucinogens: Lysergic acid diethylamide, mescaline, psilocybin, ibogaine Dissociative: Phencyclidine

What it looks like: LSD: Clear, odorless liquid, brightly colored tablets, impregnated blotter paper, thin squares of gelatin PCP: liquid, capsules, white crystalline powder, gum

Street names: Lysergic acid diethylamide: LSD, Acid, Blotter, Phencyclidine: PCP, Angel Dust, Loveboat, Wack

How it is used: Both hallucinogens and dissociative drugs can be swallowed, injected or smoked. LSD liquid and gelatin forms can be put in the eyes. PCP is often sprinkled or sprayed on cigarettes, parsley and marijuana.

Duration of high: Hallucinogens: effects begin within 30 to 90 minutes and last from six to twelve hours PCP: effects begin within minutes and last for hours

Withdrawal symptoms: Depression, memory loss

Effects:

Physical (both)—increased heart rate and blood pressure, elevated body temperature, loss of appetite, loss of muscle coordination, slurred speech

Hallucinogens
Mental—hallucinations; intensified senses; distortion of time, reality and environment; confusion; mood swings; panic; suicidal thoughts

Long-term—heart and lung failure, flashbacks, coma

Dissociative
Mental—detachment/disconnection of environment and self, distorted perceptions of sight and sound, violence

Long-term—memory loss, speech difficulties, paranoia, convulsions, coma

There are hundreds of synthetic hallucinogens on the market today including 25I-NBOMe (N-Bomb) and 2C-I (Smiles) which have been attributed to multiple deaths and significant injuries. They are generally found as powders, liquids, soaked into blotter paper or laced on something edible. Both drugs are classified as Schedule I substances, making possession, distribution and manufacture illegal.

U.S. information

In 2014, nearly 1.3 million Americans aged 12 and older reported using LSD in the past year and 90,000 reported using PCP in the past year. The average age at first use for past year initiates was about 18 for PCP and 20 for LSD.

(National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2014)