

# DRUGS

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# WHAT IS A DRUG?

**A DRUG IS ANY SUBSTANCE (OTHER THAN FOOD THAT PROVIDES NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT) THAT, WHEN INHALED, INJECTED, SMOKED, CONSUMED, ABSORBED VIA A PATCH ON THE SKIN, OR DISSOLVED UNDER THE TONGUE CAUSES A TEMPORARY (AND OFTEN PSYCHOLOGICAL) CHANGE IN THE BODY**

# TYPES OF DRUGS

## OPIATINOLS

- MARIJUANA
- HASHISH

## OPIODS

- HEROIN
- OPIUM

## STIMULANTS

- COCAINE
- AMPHETAMINE
- METHAMPHETAMINE

## \* CLUB DRUGS

- MDMA (METHYLENEDIKXVMETHAMPHETAMINE)
- FLUNITRAZEPAM
- GHB (GAMMA-HYDROXYBUTYRATE)

## \* DISSOCIATIVE DRUGS

- KETAMINE
- PCP (PHENCYCLIDINE) AND ANALOGS
- SALVIA DIVINORUM
- DXM (DEXTROMETHORPHAN)

# **TYPES OF DRUGS (CONTINUED)**

## **HALLUCINOGENS**

- LSD (LYSERGIC ACID DIETHYLAMIDE)**
- Mescaline**
- Psilocybin**

## **OTHER COMPOUNDS**

- ANABOLIC STEROIDS**
- INHALANTS**

# WHAT MAKES A DRUG A MEDICINE?

## MEDICINE IS ALSO A DRUG

**IN ORDER FOR A DRUG TO BE A MEDICINE, IT MUST CURE, MITIGATE, TREAT, OR PREVENT AN ILLNESS OR DISEASE**

- **OTC (OVER-THE-COUNTER) MEDICINE**

- \* **CAN BE BOUGHT WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION**

- **PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION**

- \* **MUST BE PRESCRIBED BY A DOCTOR IN ORDER TO BE OBTAINED**

# **DRUG ABUSE**

**DRUG ABUSE IS THE HABITUAL TAKING OF ADDICTIVE OR ILLEGAL DRUGS**

# **DRUG MISUSE**

**DRUG MISUSE REFERS TO THE USE OF A DRUG FOR PURPOSES WHICH IT WAS NOT INTENDED, OR USING A DRUG IN EXCESSIVE QUANTITIES.**

**ALL TYPES OF DRUGS CAN BE MISUSED INCLUDING ILLEGAL DRUGS, PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION, AND OVER-THE-COUNTER-MEDICATION / DRUGS**

# DRUG ADDICTION

**DRUG ADDICTION IS WHEN ONE BECOMES DEPENDENT ON A DRUG AND IT FORMS A CENTRAL PART OF THEIR LIFE. THE MISUSE OF DRUGS CAN LEAD TO PHYSICAL DEPENDENCY OR PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPENDENCY.**

- **PHYSICAL DEPENDENCY MEANS THAT THE BODY HAS BECOME SO USED TO A DRUG THAT IT GETS PHYSICAL WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS IF THE USER STOPS TAKING IT. THIS MEANS YOU HAVE TO KEEP TAKING THE DRUG TO STOP YOURSELF FROM FEELING ILL**
- **PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPENDENCY MEANS THAT YOU TAKE THE DRUG BECAUSE IT HAS FORMED A LARGE PART OF YOUR LIFE, AND YOU TAKE IT TO MAKE YOURSELF FEEL GOOD. YOU MAY FEEL THAT YOU CANNOT STOP TAKING THE DRUG , EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE NOT PHYSICALLY DEPENDENT**

# **DRUG ADDICTION (CONTINUED)**

**SOME DRUGS CAN MAKE YOU BOTH PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY DEPENDENT.**

**AS YOU TAKE MORE OF A DRUG, YOUR BODY BECOMES TOLERANT TO IT SO IT DOES NOT HAVE SUCH A STRONG EFFECT. THIS MEANS THAT YOU NEED TO TAKE LARGER AMOUNTS TO GET THE SAME EFFECT AS WHEN YOU STARTED TAKING IT.**

# HOW DRUGS EFFECT YOUR BODY

**THE EFFECTS DRUGS HAVE ON THE BODY DEPEND ON THE SIZE, GENERAL HEALTH, THE AMOUNT AND STRENGTH OF THE DRUG, AND WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE ANY DRUGS IN THE SYSTEM AT THE SAME TIME**

**DEPENDING ON THE TIME OF DRUG, SOME EFFECTS ARE**

- HALLUCINATIONS
- VOMITING
- PANIC/PARANOIA
- ACNE
- GUM DISEASE/CAVITIES
- HEADACHES
- DEATH
- ADDICTION
- CANCER
- BALDNESS
- ANXIETY
- SEIZURES
- BRAIN DAMAGE
- BAD BREATH
- JAW CLENCHING
- REDUCED/INCREASED APPETITE
- SLEEPINESS/ LOSS OF SLEEP
- DEPRESSION
- COLLAPSED VEINS
- AGITATION

# **EFFECTS DRUGS HAVE ON YOUR LIFE**

## **DRUG ABUSE CAN LEAD TO**

- **HOMELESSNESS**
- **CRIME**
- **MISSED WORK OR PROBLEMS WITH KEEPING A JOB**
- **TRUST ISSUES AMONG FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

## **DRUG ABUSE ALSO PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN MANY SOCIAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS:**

- **DRUGGED DRIVING**
- **STRESS**
- **VIOLENCE**
- **CHILD ABUSE**

# PREVENTION

**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW USES, OR IS THINKING ABOUT DOING DRUGS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO:**

- TALK TO A FAMILY FRIEND OR PROFESSIONAL**
- DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH ON THE DRUGS**
- DISCUSS THE EFFECTS OF DRUGS HAVE STARTING AT AN EARLY AGE.**
- LOOK FOR SIGNS THAT SOMEONE MIGHT BE USING, OR THINK ABOUT USING DRUGS. SIGNS INCLUDE:**
  - ISOLATION**
  - LOSE INTEREST IN FAVORITE THINGS**
  - HAVE PROBLEMS AT SCHOOL OR WORK**
  - QUICKLY CHANGE MOODS**
  - OVER OR UNDEREATING**

# **HOTLINES/SUPPORT GROUPS/ REHABILITATION**

**THERE ARE HOTLINES, REHABILITATION CENTERS, AND SUPPORT GROUPS THAT CAN HELP PREVENT AND  
CURE DRUG ADDICTION ABUSE**

**- SAMHSA: 1-800-662-HELP (4357)**

**- DRUG & ALCOHOL SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM, 870-234-7242, MAGNOLIA, AR**

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