



ROSECRANCE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES

Adolescent Drug Terminology: 2017-2018 Edition



Addies

Slang term for Adderall, a commonly prescribed medication for ADHD. It is a type of amphetamine that acts as a central nervous system stimulant and can help with attention and focus. There is a rising trend of students using it to perform better on tests and papers. Some use it as a weight loss pill because it speeds up the body's metabolism and lowers appetite.



Edibles

Short for marijuana edibles. A food product that is infused with cannabinoids, particularly THC (the psychoactive chemical). Typically, they come in the form of gummies, brownies, cookies, chocolate but can come in a wide range of products including drinks. The two primary problems that come from edibles are inconsistency in dosage and a delayed effect. They often take 30 minutes or more to take effect, which may lead to someone taking more and ending up highly intoxicated or even psychotic. There has been an increase in hospitalizations in states where marijuana is legal, partly due to these effects.



Juul (pronounced jewel)

A specific nicotine vaping product that has become one of the most popular among teens. It is black and rectangular (about 4 inches long) and looks like a computer flash drive. It often comes with various flavor attachments (cool mint, mango, crème brule) to entice youth to use it. The liquid contains nicotine salts with twice as much nicotine as previous e-cigarettes. The liquids and flavoring agents are unregulated and often contain undisclosed carcinogens (diacetyl, propylene oxide, acrolein, aldehydes) that can cause significant lung damage over time.



Hulks/School Buses

Rectangular 2mg Xanax pills may be green (hulks) or yellow (school buses), as opposed to the more common white 'bars'. Xanax misuse continues to be an ongoing problem among some youth. Often Xanax use is a red flag that a drug problem is getting significantly worse and there is need for more structured treatment.



Lean (aka sizzurp/purple drank)

Slang for prescription strength cough syrup mixed with soda. The syrup contains codeine (an opioid) and promethazine (an antihistamine), both of which are central nervous system depressants. The overdose risk is high with larger doses because of the strong depressant effects. Several members of the hip hop music community where the term originated have died from respiratory depression due to ingestion.



Mods

Modified e-cigarettes and vaping pens. Most often it refers to modification of the battery that powers the device. Stronger, longer lasting, and more consistent batteries can increase the intensity or flavor of the vapor. The mods can also involve the casing and atomizer (the part that creates the vapor). It is like a vaping device on steroids.

2016 Adolescent Drug Terminology



Bars (aka ladders)

Bars is another name for rectangular shaped Xanax (an anti-anxiety medication) pills with three lines in them (typically 2mg per 'bar'). This drug is increasing in abuse among youth. If a teen says someone was "barred out" it means that they were highly sedated due to Xanax consumption.



Dabs (aka wax)

A term used to describe highly concentrated butane hash oil (BHO). The term dab was coined because a small "dab" of the substance is heated on the rig (see term below) and inhaled. It is created in a process where high quality cannabis is blasted with butane and extracted. Dabs typically contain 70-90% THC compared to 5-15% THC in regular cannabis.



DMT (aka dream time)

DMT is an abbreviation for the hallucinogenic drug dimethyltryptamine. It is a powerful visual hallucinogen that has been used in shaman rituals in the Amazon in the form of a plant mixture called ayahuasca. Creates a state of mind reported like going into another world where it is difficult to differentiate what is real and what isn't.



Fentanyl

This is a powerful synthetic opioid pain medication. Commonly used in intravenous anesthesia and in patches to manage chronic pain. More powerful than heroin. There has been a significant increase in the past couple years of illegal fentanyl shipped from China. It's commonly being added to heroin or pressed into pills and sold as Oxycodone leading to increase in overdose deaths because of its potency.



Rig

A rig is a device used to vaporize and inhale dabs. Looks similar to a water pipe or bong. Usually a nail is heated with a hand-held torch to a high temperature and a small piece of the concentrate is 'dabbed' onto a nail. Vapor released is then inhaled through the pipe.



Vaping (aka vaporizing)

Term used to describe when a substance is heated to the point of releasing vapor but not combusted (lit on fire). Increasing in popularity as a way to ingest nicotine and cannabis, often in an electronic device that looks like a pen. Usually relatively odorless and difficult to distinguish between nicotine and cannabis vape device.