

# Club Drugs

## What is meant by the term “club” drugs?

Club drug, or party drug, refers to any one of the many different substances currently being used by young adults at rave parties, all-night dance clubs, and bars. These drugs are often used in combination with alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs, making them even more dangerous.

## What makes these drugs so dangerous?

Since some of these drugs are illegal or purchased from illegal sources, they may be adulterated and their strength and toxicity may be difficult to measure. The drugs are generally used in a party-type setting, where the user may be surrounded by strangers. If the user becomes ill or in danger in any way, he or she may not be able to get help, especially if other party-goers are also intoxicated. Date rape or acquaintance rape is also a frequent consequence, since some of these drugs can be slipped into a drink and used as a sedative.

DRUG NAME	SLANG NAMES	WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE	LEGITIMATE USES	EFFECTS ON BODY
Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)	Ecstasy, XTC, X, Adam, Clarity, Lover’s Speed	Tablet or capsule	None; originally developed as an appetite suppressant, but never tested in humans.	Produces both stimulant and hallucinogenic effects. Can cause dehydration, heart or kidney failure, high body temp. & nerve damage.
Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB)	Grievous Bodily Harm, G, liquid ecstasy, Georgia Home Boy	Can be clear liquid, white powder, tablet, or capsule. Can be added to beverages.	None; usually manufactured illegally or purchased on the Internet. Ingredients are also found in some diet supplements in health food stores.	A central nervous system depressant. At high doses, slows pulse and breathing to dangerous levels. May be used as a date rape drug.
Ketamine	Special K, Vitamin K, cat Valium	Injectable liquid or a white powder that is snorted.	Used as a veterinary anesthetic for small animals. Occasionally used in humans.	Causes dream-like states and hallucinations similar to PCP. High doses can cause respiratory failure, high blood pressure, and impaired motor function.
Rohypnol	Roofies, Rophies, Roche, Forget-Me Pill	Tablet, may be ground and dissolved in carbonated beverages.	Used in Europe and other countries as a sedative and pre-surgery anesthetic. Not approved for use in U.S.	Causes sedation, confusion, and amnesia. Used as a “date rape” drug.
Methamphetamine	Speed, Ice, Crank, Meth, Crystal	Can be found in many forms and smoked, snorted, injected, or taken orally. Often a white powder.	None; manufactured illegally, often using common over-the-counter drugs as an ingredient.	Strong, addictive, neurotoxic stimulant. May cause agitation, violent behavior, and heart and nerve damage.
Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD)	Acid, Boomers, Yellow sunshine	Sold in tablets, capsules, liquid, or in drops on sheets of blotter paper.	None; manufactured illegally.	LSD causes dilated pupils, sweating, increased heart rate, and hallucinations, often in the form of sensory misperception.