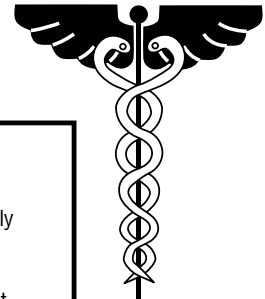




DRUG TERMINOLOGY



Facts About Drugs

acquired immune deficiency

syndrome (AIDS): loss of the ability to fight disease, brought about by virus spread through sexual contact or needle sharing

alkaloid: certain drugs that are alkaline in their natural state

allergy: immune response to a drug
amotivational syndrome: disinterested, uninvolved, unmotivated, passive, lethargic as associated with cannabis abuse

analgesic: numbs pain while user is alert

anesthesia: loss of sensitivity, usually in unconscious state

antagonist: blocks effects of another drug

antitussive: prevents coughing

cardiac arrest: stopping of effective pumping of the heart

cardiovascular system: heart and blood vessels

central nervous system (CNS): brain and spinal cord

cerebellum: brain center controlling muscle coordination

cerebral cortex: gray matter on upper surface of brain controlling sensory perception, thought process, control of movement.

chronic: long lasting

cirrhosis: progressive liver disease, often related to alcohol abuse

coma: unconsciousness beyond arousal

congener: chemically related to another drug

convulsion: severe, involuntary muscle spasm, usually with loss of consciousness

cross-dependence: a similar drug can prevent withdrawal effects, but will not necessarily prolong other effects

cross-tolerance: insensitivity to similar effects of other drugs

dependence: craving or physical need for a drug which interferes with physical and mental health, social responsibility and well-being

depressant: slows functions of specific organ system

depression: physical slowing of functions or emotional despair and unhappiness

derivative: extracted from another drug by chemical process

detoxication (detox): eliminating drugs from the body

disinhibitor: causing loss of inhibitions

dissociative: feelings of separation or distance from situation

drug: any natural or manufactured substance with physiological or psychological effects

DTs: delirium tremens related to alcohol withdrawal

euphoria: heightened feeling of happiness, well-being

hallucination: an unreal perception believed to be real

hemorrhage: loss of blood

hepatitis: inflammation of the liver

hypertension: extremely high blood pressure

hyperthermia: high body temperature

hypotension: low blood pressure

hypothermia: low body temperature

hypnotic: sleep-inducing drug

intoxication: inebriation or poisoning

intramuscular: within a muscle

intravenous: within a vein

metabolism: body conversion of substances into various other substances

narcotic: a drug which has a numbing or deadening effect

nasal rebound effect: after frequent use of decongestant spray, nose clogs from effects

needle pleasure syndrome: experienced addicts associate pleasure with any drug or nondrug injection

opiate: natural or semisynthetic narcotic analgesic derived from the opium poppy

opioid: a synthetic narcotic analgesic, also used in the

general sense for all narcotic analgesics

OTC: over-the-counter drug widely available without prescription

overdose: amounts over the prescribed or indicated doses that produce damaging effects

paranoia: extreme suspicion

parkinsonism: brain disorder causing involuntary twitches, tremors, unusual walk, Parkinson's disease

pseudohallucination: perceived as real but known to be unreal by drug user

psychoactive: affecting emotions, thoughts, behavior

psychosis: severe mental disorder

respiratory arrest: stopped breathing

Reye's syndrome: uncommon but sometimes fatal disease associated with the use of aspirin by children under age 16 who have chicken pox or a viral syndrome, causing violent headaches, vomiting, sleepiness, irritability, disorientation and delirium

schizophrenia: bizarre behavior with disturbances in thought and mood

sedation: state of calm and relaxation produced by a drug

seizure: convulsions or other physical or psychic evidence of abnormal electric activity in the brain

side effect: effect, usually undesirable, which accompanies primary desired effect

solvent: liquid used to dissolve other substances

subcutaneous: under the skin

tolerance: body adaptation to repeated drug effects requiring increased dosage for original experiences

toxic psychosis: severe mental disorder caused by psychoactive substances

ulcer: erosion of skin or mucosal surface in body

withdrawal sickness: physical and psychological effects when a drug is stopped