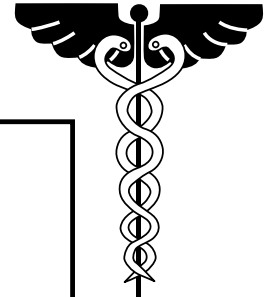




# COCAINE



## Facts About Drugs

### WHAT IT IS

**Names:** cocaine, rock cocaine, coke, "C," flake, snow, stardust, Peruvian marching powder, the devil's dandruff

**Type:** central nervous system stimulant

**Forms:** leaf of coca bush (ritual form), white crystalline powder as cocaine hydrochloride, vapor as cocaine free-base, dried lump of combined baking soda or ammonia and cocaine processed as freebase "crack" or "rock," solution diluted in water

**Combinations:** with heroin, "dynamite," "speedball" or "whiz-bang"; with morphine, also "whizbang"; dissolved in liquid

**Usage:** chewed (leaves); smoked (paste and freebase lumps); sniffed or "snorted" into mucous membranes of nose (powder and vapor); applied to mucous membranes of mouth, vagina, rectum (powder); injected into bloodstream (in a water solution)

**Legal Status:** illegal unless used by licensed physician as a local anesthetic; also used in Brompton's cocktail to treat terminal cancer patients

### WHAT IT FEELS LIKE

orgasmic "rush," then energetic, alert, with no need for food or sleep, talkative or peaceful, self-confident, in command, quick, agitated, anxious, unhappy, later depressed, tired

### WHAT IT DOES

**To Your Mind:** stimulates rapid, intense general euphoria

**To Your Body:** slows, then increases heart rate and blood pressure, constricts blood vessels, increases breathing rate, dries mouth, dilates pupils, exaggerates movements

**Special Characteristics:** A cocaine "spree" may lead to a "crash" with severe depression, lethargy, hunger. Freebasing can result in severe burn accidents.

### HOW IT CAN HURT YOU

- eating and sleeping disorders
- shaking, muscle twitches, seizures, severe anxiety
- paranoia, psychosis and hallucinations
- impaired sexual performance
- needle infections such as endocarditis, hepatitis and AIDS
- unborn children of using mothers may be affected by mental retardation, deformities, heart defects and delayed development
- addiction
- death from overdose and heroin combination, suicide, homicide, fatal accidents while under the influence

### WHEN TO GET HELP

- Do you use cocaine regularly?
- Do you freebase or inject cocaine?
- Do you use it in the morning or at regular intervals?
- Do you lie about how much cocaine you use?
- Are you spending more on cocaine than you can afford?
- Are you having problems at work or school or with family and friends?
- Do you try to "buy" friendship or companionship with cocaine?
- Are you willing to do anything to get cocaine?

**FACT:**  
*Cocaine may be the most addictive drug of all.*