

# DRUG USE AND AWARENESS

Palatine Police Department

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# Marijuana

Marijuana is most commonly smoked, but using it in food or using it in other forms (dabs, suckers, candies, hash) is becoming increasingly more popular among young adults

Common terms - weed, loud, fire, kush, green, lettuce, bud, Hydro

Outward appearance - lethargic, dry mouth, blood shot and droopy eyes, slowed speech



# Synthetics



Commonly referred to as K-2 and Spice (the original synthetics)

Act as a hallucinogen and can lead to bizarre behavior

Can often be found in convenience stores and “head shops”



# Cocaine/Crack

Cocaine – generally ingested through nose or laced in with other drugs (marijuana or heroin). Can also be injected, but is not common

Common terms – coke, ye-yo, rails, white, powder, soft, blow



Crack – is an alternate form of cocaine. It's an off-white rock like substance that is smoked using a crack pipe. The pipe is most commonly a small glass pipe with steel wool in one end

Common terms – rock(s), hard, freebase

Outward appearance – for both crack cocaine and powder cocaine users will have dilated pupils, aggressive behavior, irritability and nose bleeds



# Ecstasy / MDMA

Ecstasy/MDMA /MDA- is a synthetic, psychoactive drug with amphetamine-like and hallucinogenic properties. Ecstasy comes in pill form and other MDMA/MDA can come in powder or capsule form. All three variations can be swallowed or snorted. Pills are usually stamped with a “brand”, like Nike symbol or Playboy bunny.

Common terms – X, Molly, white girl, rolls, Sass or Sassafras, and Adam





# LSD

Commonly referred to as “Acid”

Most common forms are tabs (as pictured) Tabs are placed in the mouth where they dissolve

LSD can be dropped on many different items for ingestion such as Altoids (will often see mint wrapped in foil if it contains acid)

Use caution when handling suspected LSD as it can be absorbed through the skin



# Heroin

Heroin is a depressant which is commonly ingested by injection, snorting, or smoking. Can be off-white, brown or yellowish.

Common terms – H, smack, dope, horse, junk, Chicago brown

Outward appearance – extremely lethargic, users go into the “nods” which is a semi-unconscious state where the user literally nods and is unresponsive for minutes to hours. Main-line users will also have “track marks” or “tracks” on their arms, legs, neck and feet.





# Cost of Doing Heroin



- ▣ \$10-20 a bag (0.1 gram)
- ▣ \$100 “jab” -usually 12 bags (1.0 gram)
- ▣ Heroin addicts can use 6-12 baggies per day
- ▣ High can last almost 3 hours depending on potency, tolerance, and weight of user
- ▣ 18 and older can buy needles without prescription (up to 20 needles)



# Effects of Heroin/Opioid Use

- ▣ Short term
  - slow breathing and pulse
  - drowsiness and disorientation
- Long term
  - damage to lungs, liver, kidneys, and brain
  - HIV/AIDS
  - death

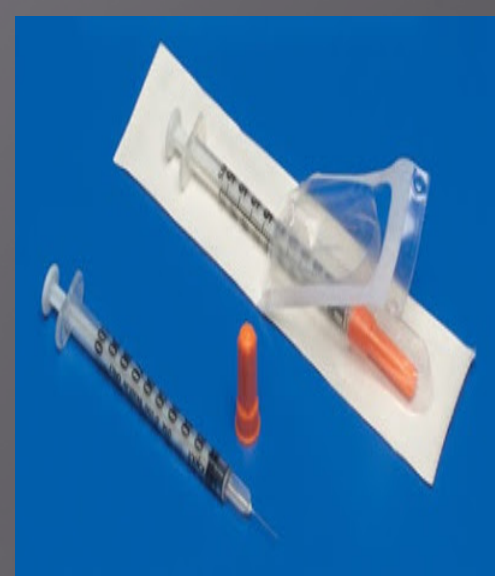
# Signs of Heroin/Opioid Abuse

- Sudden change in behavior and school work
- Slowed or uncoordinated movement
- Excessive sleeping or nodding off
- Itchy or picking at skin (histamine release from Heroin)
- Lying or deceptive behavior
- Lack of hygiene and disregard for appearance
- Missing valuable items in home due to theft



# Additional Warning Signs

- ▣ Needles or orange caps for syringes
- ▣ Spoons with burn marks on bottom
- ▣ Aluminum foil with burn marks or powder residue
- ▣ Missing shoelaces or rubber straps (used to tie off)
- ▣ Straws, empty pen cases, rolled up bills used for snorting



# Chicago's Heroin Highway

- ▣ <https://youtu.be/BCTbOzUbPmY>
  
- ▣ Criminal behavior associated with Heroin use
  - 1) Fraud-Prescription
  - 2) Theft- from family and friends
  - 3) Retail Theft- steal items to pawn for fast cash or trade for drugs
  - 4) Burglary- motor vehicles, residential, work sites



# Suboxone/Methadone

- Suboxone and Methadone are common prescription drugs given to opiate dependent addicts through their doctor or state supported clinics.
- Suboxone and Methadone come in multiple forms including: pills, dissolvable strips, mints, drinkable liquids or capsule.
- Both are often abused by and sold to subjects attempting to recreate the highs of heroin and other opiates



# Prescription Narcotics

- Prescription narcotics range from stimulants to depressants. All are abused and are becoming a larger issue in the United States.
  - Most commonly abused prescription narcotics include: Opioids (painkillers), Depressants (anxiety or sleep related), Stimulants (ADHD)
  - All commercially manufactured pills are required to have identifiable markings on each side. [www.drugs.com](http://www.drugs.com) has a “pill identifier” where you can enter the markings on the pill and you will be redirected to a page dedicated to that particular pill. The page will include pictures, why its prescribed and to whom, and side effects of users.





# Abused Prescription Pills

## 1) Opioids

- sedative narcotic used to treat pain
- Oxycontin, Vicodin, Codeine, Hydrocodone

## 2) Depressants

- Prescribed for anxiety or sleep issues
- Valium, Xanax

## 3) Stimulants

- ADHD
- Adderall, Ritalin

## Quick Stats

Can be taken by mouth, snorted, or injected

Price range from \$2-\$10 per pill

Felony PCS if found in possession without a valid prescription



# Opioids

- ▣ Opioid prescriptions have tripled over the last 25 years
- ▣ US is largest consumer of Opioids
- ▣ Opioids account for greatest prescription abuse problem
- ▣ Recent study showed 2.1 million people abused opioid pills and 500k abuse Heroin. Both numbers are on the rise.

# Prescription Pills

- ▣ How are teens acquiring these pills
  - 1)prescribed by doctor for injuries or surgeries
  - 2)from friends who are prescribed them
  - 3)steal from family members(most common)

- Prevention

- If prescribed, monitor intake and control of bottle

- Lock up other family pills to avoid theft

- Discard unused or old medication (Walgreens)



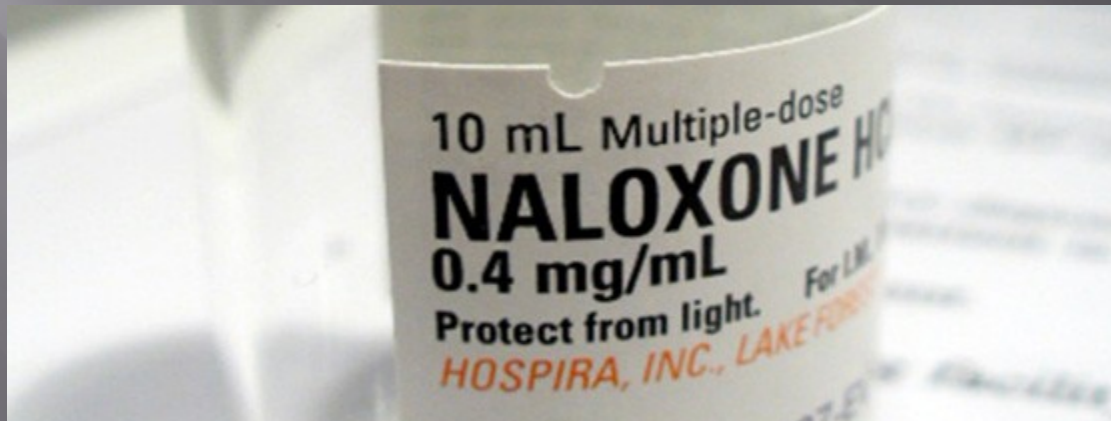
# Gateway Drug



- ❑ Opioids are gateway drugs to Heroin use
- ❑ Heavy users of opioids become immune to pills and turn to Heroin for new/cheaper high
- ❑ Heroin is immediate high, pills take longer
- ❑ Heroin high is greater due to potency
- ❑ Heroin is less expensive and more accessible than pills
- ❑ Prescription abusers are 19X more likely to use Heroin
- ❑ 8 out of 10 Heroin users abused pills first

# Narcan (Naloxone)

- ▣ Antidote that reverses an opioid/heroin OD
- ▣ Administered through Nasal spray
- ▣ Can be obtained through pharmacy or drug treatment program (Walgreens)
- ▣ Cost per unit \$40-80 dollars, but on the rise
- ▣ Can't be abused or cause overdoses, has no affect on patient that is not OD.



# Narcan Use in Palatine

- ▣ PFD has been carrying Narcan over 25 years
- ▣ All ambulances and support vehicles carry it (10 vehicles)
- ▣ PFD response time 6-7 minutes

