

Cocaine

Also called: Blow, C, Coke, Crack, Flake, Snow

Cocaine is a powerful drug that stimulates the brain. People who use it can form a strong addiction.

They may have to use more and more of the drug to get high.

It's sold on the street as a fine, white powder. There are two forms of cocaine: hydrochloride salt and freebase.

The salt dissolves in water. People can take it in a vein or in the nose.

The freebase form can be smoked. Crack is the street name of a smokable form of cocaine.

No matter how cocaine is taken, it is dangerous.

Some of the most common serious problems include:

- Heart problems, including heart attacks
- Respiratory effects, including respiratory failure
- Nervous system problems, including strokes
- Digestive problems

Any of these can be fatal. Using cocaine with alcohol is a common cause of drug-related death.



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