

WHAT IS COCAINE/CRACK?

Cocaine, also known as Coke, is a bitter-tasting stimulant which acts on the pleasure centres of the brain. In its original form, it is mixed with talcum powder or teething powder in order to increase the volume. It is usually 20% pure.

Crack is the crystallized form of cocaine in rock form. The cocaine powder is cooked and mixed with a binding agent, e.g. bicarbonate, to form the “rock” (Crack). This is called “freebasing”, resulting in the end product being 90% pure. Cocaine is cut into lines and snorted through a rolled-up banknote or straw. Crack is smoked through a glass or metal pipe. The Rock is melted on copper gauze and inhaled. This method is more intense and immediate compared to snorting. Snorting ultimately leads to the disintegration of the inner structure of the nose.

EFFECTS OF COCAINE/CRACK?

Addiction is primarily psychological.

A “high” is so pleasurable that some users become addicted after their first “hit”. Some describe the experience as “falling in love” with the drug, and so the user craves for more and more. It results in the user doing anything to obtain a high – stealing, manipulating others, criminal activities. Cocaine becomes the master of their life!



SYMPTOMS OF THE USER

- Weight loss
- Anxiety
- Problems in sleeping
- Incessant sniffing
- Nose bleeds (if snorted)
- Loss of concentration

SYMPTOMS AFTER A “HIT”

- Super sensitive hearing
- Ringing ears
- Increased energy and heart and blood pressure
- Cold sweats
- Shaking
- Very talkative or withdrawn

EFFECTS ON THE BODY

- Increased sense of confidence and energy
- Paranoia
- Dehydration
- Increase or decrease in sex drive
- Running nose

Long-term Effects Include:

- Risk of addiction
- Psychological dependence
- Damage to nasal passages
- Convulsions
- Possible coma
- While chronic use can result in psychosis and suicide

WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS

The initial withdrawal time period lasts about 4 days, followed by 2 less-intense periods lasting between 4 and 10 days.

Symptoms suffered during this period are:

- Increased craving
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Fatigue
- Muscle pains
- Aggression
- Nausea
- Vomiting

Is it worth the gamble?

Don't self-destruct!

BE SMART

DON'T START!



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON COCAINE



**Published in the interest of a
more
sustainable, healthy lifestyle
rather than being a
captive of drugs!**