Legal Issues:

In Canada, cocaine is governed under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, under Schedule I.

Unlawful possession of the drug is a criminal offence punishable on indictment by imprisonment for up to seven years and on summary conviction for a first time offence to a fine of up to \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for up to six months or both. A subsequent offence is punishable upon summary conviction by a fine of up to \$2,000.00 or imprisonment for up to one year or both.

Trafficking, possession for the purpose of trafficking, possession for the purpose of exporting, production, import and export are indictable offences punishable by up to life imprisonment.



If you or someone you know has a cocaine addiction or problems with other drugs please contact your family physician, community health center , addiction services or support groups.

Remember there are people out there that want to help.

No one has to go it alone.



Cocaine



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> 24 Hour Crisis Line (North East Region) 1-800-611-6349

Street Names:

Cocaine: coke, blow, nose candy, flake, snow, lady/girl, white.

Crack: Base, base ball, crank, rock, snow toke, space basing

Cocaine is a highly potent stimulant that produces quick and temporary increases in energy. Crack is cocaine that has not been neutralized by an acid to make the hydrochloride salt. This form of cocaine comes in a rock crystal that can be heated and its vapors smoked.

Chronic use of cocaine results in tolerance and higher doses. Cocaine can produce strong psychological dependence leading to compulsive patterns of use. The dependency to cocaine is said to be more powerful than any other psychoactive drug. Physical dependence can also result.

How it works

Cocaine can be snorted through the nose (hydrochloride), smoked (freebased) or even injected. It can be absorbed through other mucous membranes like the mouth or anus.

Smoking allows for extremely high doses of the drug to reach the brain quickly and brings an intense and immediate high.

The high from snorting may last 15-30 minutes, while the high from smoking may last only 5-10 minutes.

Short Term effects

- Enlarged pupils
- Feeling of euphoria
- More energy, alertness, less need to eat and sleep
- Increased heart rate, blood pressure and breathing
- Hangover type feeling including feelings of depression, extreme tiredness and congested nose

High doses may cause such effects as:

- Anxiety, unpredictable or violent behavior
- Hearing or seeing things that aren't really there
- Blurred vision
- Chest pain
- Muscle spasms
- Nausea and fever

Single high doses have been known to:

 Contribute to seizures or death from stroke, heart attack or breathing problems

Long Term Effects:

- Chapped skin under the nose and damage to the inside of the nose if snorted
- Throat or lung irritations when smoked
- Severe, persistent headaches
- Problems experiencing please without the drug
- Sexual dysfunction in men / Impotence
- Memory, attention and behavior problems
- Weight and appetite loss, eating disorders
- Tooth decay
- Weakened immune system
- Intense depression (sadness), paranoia (feeling scared or suspicious for no reason) and hallucination (hearing and seeing things that are not really there)
- Seizures, heart problems (cardiac arrhythmias), stroke or sudden death.