



BARBITURATES & BENZODIAZEPINES

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Barbiturates and benzodiazepines are prescription drugs.

Doctors prescribe them to treat insomnia (inability to sleep), anxiety or panic, and seizures. Benzodiazepines are more commonly prescribed than barbiturates.

When you take barbiturates or benzodiazepines without a doctor's orders, you take a huge risk. They are rapidly addicting. Abusing them can hurt your health or even result in death.

DRUG ID

Looks: Tablets or capsules

Street Names: Downers, sleeping pills, sleepers, stumblers, tranx, barbs, benzos

Actions: Barbiturates and benzodiazepines are depressants. They slow the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord). In turn, the brain depresses respiration (breathing) and heart rate. The drugs also decrease blood pressure and body temperature.

Warning Signs: People abusing barbiturates or benzodiazepines are sleepy and slow. They think, speak, and move slowly. They are clumsy and moody. They may appear to be drunk.

THE NUMBERS

Barbiturate abuse led to 9,506 emergency room visits last year.

Benzodiazepines caused 103,972 emergency room visits.

MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS
BE DRUG FREE!



- Decline in school or work performance
- Loss of interest in activities
- Slurred speech
- Mood swings
- Sleepiness, laziness, and drowsiness



USING OVER TIME

- Addiction, anxiety, and insomnia
- Headaches and jerking eyes
- Possible overdose and death
- Withdrawal symptoms (nausea, stomach cramps, vomiting, trembling, fast heartbeat, and sweating)

WAY TO GO

Abusing barbiturates or benzodiazepines limits your ability to enjoy life. Barbiturate and benzodiazepine abuse can kill, either through overdose or by combination with alcohol. Never use barbiturates or benzodiazepines without a doctor's supervision.

GOOPY