



Here's a weird one: Some people actually take these drugs *on purpose* to get high or to have a new, strange experience. It's a fatal choice with GHB, Rohypnol, or Ketamine, because a deadly overdose of any of them can occur extremely easily.

Read on to learn more about what these drugs are, and how you can guard against their knockout punch

For More Information

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Don't stay in the dark. Get In the Know!

GHB, Rohypnol, and Ketamine

knockout punch

Blindsided

Maybe you've already decided to be drug-free. You want to stay healthy, so you avoid drugs and alcohol all of the time. That's great. But be aware that there's a group of drugs that certain sick individuals are using against others. They're nicknamed the "Date Rape Drugs," and that name says a lot about why you need to keep your eyes open for these substances.



What are the Date Rape Drugs? The three drugs that have been used most often to knock out innocent victims are GHB, Rohypnol, and Ketamine. These drugs have some medical uses, but in the hands of random evildoers, they're lethal weapons.

Date Rape and the Law

www.intheknowzone.com/Drugs/Law/



SAMPLE GO

in the know

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About GHB

GHB (*gamma hydroxy-butyrate*) is chemically similar to a substance that is found in every cell of the human body. Some users claim that this means it's safe, but they are wrong. GHB is a depressant, so it slows the brain and body. Using any depressant without a doctor's supervision is hazardous. In the past, doctors have used GHB to treat various conditions, including childbirth problems and anxiety. Some weightlifters claim it builds muscle, but no scientific studies have proven that. GHB was outlawed in 1990 because of the ease of overdose and addiction.



Effects of GHB

In small doses, GHB produces a mild sedative effect, slowed heart and breathing rates, inability to think quickly or logically, and physical weakness. Repeated use can lead to addiction and tough withdrawal. If someone takes a bit too much at once, GHB can produce seizures, coma, or death.

GHB Names and Forms

GHB's street names include G, Liquid Ecstasy, Georgia Home Boy, Grievous Bodily Harm, Gamma G, Growth Hormone Booster, and many others.

GHB is usually found in liquid, which users sip from bottle caps. The drug is clear and odorless and tastes like salt water, but when mixed with a sweet or strong-flavored drink, its taste is mostly covered up.



GHB Images

www.intheknowzone.com/DRdrugs/Gpix/

About Rohypnol

Rohypnol is the brand name of *flunitrazepam*, a surgical anesthetic used legally by doctors around the world. It is about 10 times more potent than most common sleeping pills. Rohypnol is illegal in the U.S. and Canada.

Effects of Rohypnol

Rohypnol causes muscle relaxation, unconsciousness, and amnesia. Abusers who take small amounts feel hypnotized. Rohypnol can be addictive, and people in withdrawal often suffer seizures. Rohypnol is incredibly dangerous, especially if taken with other sedatives like alcohol. Accidental overdose is deadly.

Rohypnol Names and Forms

Rohypnol tablets may be called Roofies, Roach, Roofenol, Roché, Roll-and-Fall, or The Forget-Me Pill.

The pills are usually round, white, and labeled "Roche," with a circled number "1" or "2." Sometimes the pills are ground into powder. Rohypnol dissolves quickly in liquid. It has a bitter taste when mixed in a drink, but its taste can be mostly covered.

Rohypnol Images

www.intheknowzone.com/DRdrugs/Rpix/



About Ketamine

Ketamine was developed in the 1960s as an anesthetic for surgeries. It is closely related to PCP. Both are called "dissociatives," which means that they cause a splitting from reality. Ketamine is legal for use by veterinarians.

Effects of Ketamine

Ketamine causes unconsciousness, hallucinations, loss of body control, and numbing. It can also cause agitation, confusion, and difficulty communicating. When people awaken after using Ketamine, they have amnesia. Overdose can be fatal.

Ketamine Names and Forms

Some of Ketamine's street names are Special K, Vitamin K, Ketaject, and Cat Tranquilizers.

Ketamine is found in a white powder or a liquid in small pharmaceutical bottles. It is odorless and tasteless. It works super quickly, so if someone put it in your drink you would lose consciousness in less than a minute.



Ketamine Images

www.intheknowzone.com/DRdrugs/Kpix/

Keep Your Guard Up

GHB, Rohypnol, and Ketamine are real threats if you're not watching out for them. A dose of any of them could make you unable to protect yourself in *under a minute*. Always open your own soda cans, pour your own drinks if possible, or watch them being poured, and keep an eye on your drink at all times. If you don't know people in your group *very well*, you don't know what they might do. Sexual assaults and robberies have happened to both males and females. People who are big and strong become as weak as babies under the influence of these drugs. It could happen to you!



Protect yourself *and* protect your friends! If you see someone messing around with another person's drink, question them or tell the drink's owner what happened. If you see someone taking advantage of another person who is unconscious or defenseless, speak up! *Step in* and prevent a tragedy, or get help.

Protect Yourself

www.intheknowzone.com/DRdrugs/guard/

A Surprise Hook

As crazy as it may seem, there *are* people who take GHB, Rohypnol, or Ketamine on purpose. Abuse of these drugs is foolish and dangerous, because all of them can be addictive and overdose is easy. A person who is abusing GHB, Rohypnol, or Ketamine is a danger to himself and others—steer clear!