

THE DARK SIDE OF VAPING

Electronic cigarettes (or e-cigarettes) have grown in popularity and claim to be a safer alternative to traditional cigarettes. However, for some e-cigarettes have become an easy, almost undetectable way to abuse a wide range of synthetic drugs. People are vaping dangerous substances – alcohol, hash oil, caffeine, psychedelics, and synthetic drugs — discreetly in vape pens, sometimes right in front of police, parents and teachers. Some of these e-liquids are easily purchased online, making the user believe these products are a “safe high”. This couldn’t be further from the truth. Inhaling an unknown mix of unregulated synthetic chemicals is incredibly dangerous and can have deadly effects.



Vaping may be the most dangerous new trend to emerge since synthetic drugs first appeared in America.

DEADLY JUICE

Most synthetic drugs are water-soluble which means they can easily be converted into the liquid concentrate used in e-cigarettes. The most popular drugs to vape are flakka (an amphetamine based drug similar to bath salts) and synthetic marijuana (K2 and Spice).

Synthetic marijuana is believed to be similar to natural marijuana. In reality, it’s a variety of chemicals that mimic THC, but effect the brain very differently. Flakka contains a synthetic amphetamine which is made in China, Pakistan as well as other countries and sold as white or pink crystals. Flakka has serious mental and physical side effects, that are increased tenfold when inhaled as a vapor.

Sold in bottles similar to what nicotine vape juices are packaged in, with names like “Cloud 9,” “Hookah Relax,” “Mad Hatter,” and “Darth Vapor,” these liquid forms of synthetic drugs contain unsafe, unknown chemical mixtures. Synthetic drug e-liquids are unregulated and do not list active ingredients on their labels. You simply don’t know what you’re getting. The act of vaping sends these unregulated chemicals directly into the bloodstream, which increases the risk of adverse reactions and overdoses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to www.intheknowzone.com for more information on substance abuse. Increase your knowledge using the information, statistics, images, and links. Test your understanding with a quick quiz.

**Don’t stay in the dark.
Get In the Know!**

in the know

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VAPING SYNTHETIC DRUGS DON'T GET VAPORIZED





HORRIFYING SIDE-EFFECTS

Vaping synthetic e-liquids has been reported to cause potentially deadly side-effects, including:

- Anxiety
- Agitation
- Paranoia
- Hallucinations and psychotic episodes
- Chest pain
- Rapid heartbeat
- Elevated blood pressure
- Nausea and vomiting
- Seizures and muscle spasms
- Suicidal behavior or violent thoughts

UNKNOWN DANGERS

E-liquids for synthetic substances are made mainly of untested chemicals with unknown toxicity and potential for addiction and allergic reactions. When you vape synthetic drugs you are turning

yourself into a guinea pig for the drug-maker's lab experiment. The chemicals used to make synthetic vape e-liquids are constantly changing so there is simply no way of knowing what you are getting when you vape synthetic drugs. Tests on synthetic e-liquids have shown different chemicals in different bottles of the same brands, meaning that each batch is a mix of different deadly chemicals. Every time that you vape these mixtures you are taking a chance. Each new batch of synthetic e-liquid raises new, unknown, and potentially lethal risks.

THINKING ABOUT VAPING SYNTHETIC DRUGS? YOUR FIRST TIME COULD BE YOUR LAST TIME.

With rising e-cigarette use and greater availability of liquid synthetic drugs it has become easier to mix-and-match e-liquids to make unique solutions. As a result, new users have no idea what they're inhaling.



The risks of vaping synthetic drugs are even greater than smoking them and that danger is significantly higher for first-time users. New users don't realize they are trying stronger, more dangerous drugs and that the risk of addiction, negative side effects and overdose are higher.

VAPING OVERDOSE

Recently, sheriff's deputies arrived at a high school in Ludington, Mich. to find a 19-year-old student actively involved in a violent seizure. The student was airlifted to a hospital in critical condition. It was the fourth such case involving teens that local deputies had responded to in recent months. The cause of the students' seizures? Darth Vapor – a brand of vape juice containing synthetic marijuana. The e-liquid caused users to convulse and seize – basically shutting their bodies down and requiring immediate medical attention. Dozens of other teens have been hospitalized across the country as the result of vaping e-liquids like Hookah Relax and Cloud 9.

Hospitals and EMS have reported an increase in overdoses and adverse reactions to both synthetic marijuana and other drugs that have been vaped. Unfortunately, due to the inability to easily test the chemicals used in the vape pens, the fact that the



chemical type and amounts can vary between each bottle, and that dealers constantly change the formula to avoid prosecution, health officials are having a hard time helping patients. This can lead to complications and even death.

NOT WORTH THE RISK!

There's no denying it: vaping synthetic drugs will destroy your health! Unregulated e-liquids contain untested chemicals that cause terrifying side-effects including violent seizures, convulsions, and other life-threatening conditions. The makers of synthetic vape juice are constantly changing the recipes that they use to make these e-liquids. There is no telling what you are putting in your body when you vape synthetic drugs. Do not put your life at risk by vaping synthetic drugs.

DON'T GET VAPORIZED!

**"IT IS DEADLY; PEOPLE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THESE WILL KILL YOU."
– SHERIFF KIM COLE, MASON COUNTY, MI.**

UNTESTED

UNKNOWN

UNSAFE