

INHALANTS

Inhalants are volatile substances that produce chemical vapors that can be inhaled to induce a psychoactive, or mind-altering, effect. Although other abused substances can be inhaled, the term "inhalants" is used to describe a variety of substances whose main common characteristic is that they are rarely, if ever, taken by any route other than inhalation. This definition encompasses a broad range of chemicals that may have different pharmacological effects and are found in hundreds of different products. As a result, precise categorization of inhalants is difficult.



COMMON INHALANTS:

(Three Sub-Categories: Volatile Solvents, Aerosols, Anesthetic Gases)



- Dust-Off
- Paint (and Thinners)
- Reddi-Wip
- Insecticides
- Gasoline
- Glue
- Frying Pan Lubricants
- Nitrous Oxide



PHYSICAL EFFECTS:

Wide variety of effects, depending on the substance inhaled, however they generally appear to be intoxicated as if they were intoxicated on alcohol.

METHODS OF INGESTION:

- Sprayed into another object such as a can or balloon and then inhaled
- Soaked into a cloth, placed on the nose and mouth and then inhaled

COMMON SIGNS OF USE:

- Confusion
- Bloodshot, watery eyes
- Non-Communicative
- Possible Nausea
- Flushed Face
- Lack of Muscle Control
- Disoriented
- Intense Headaches
- Odor of Inhaled Substance
- Slow, thick slurred speech
- Residue of substance around mouth and nose

EFFECTS:

- Confusion
- Non-Communicative
- Possibly Violent
- Sensory Distortions
- Disorientation

OVERDOSE EFFECTS:

- Coma
- Sudden Sniffing Death

Drug use problems can be complex and often vary from person to person. It is important to note that the information provided is to be used as a guide only and may not be suitable for your own situation.

Sources:

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-reports/inhalants/what-are-inhalants>
International Association of Chiefs of Police ARIDE program