



MEPHEDRONE:

Mephedrone is sometimes marketed as plant food and is usually sold online and in high street "head shops" (where you can buy other drug related paraphernalia). It is a member of the methacathinone family which is related to the khat plant. Similar drugs include: Methyldone and MCAT.

Slang: Street names for drugs can vary around the country but can include: Mieow, Meow, Meph, Mephedrone, MCAT, 4MMC.

Appearance and use

Mephedrone is a white (or off-white) powder that is usually sold on the internet as a legal high and advertised as plant food or other chemicals which are 'not fit for human consumption'. It is usually snorted in a similar way to cocaine but can also be found in pill form.

The effects

- Mephedrone is a stimulant with effects similar to MDMA making the user euphoric, more alert and talkative as well as feeling more empathetic.
- Some of the possible affects of mephedrone can include reduced inhibitions, drowsiness, excited or paranoid states, coma, seizures, and death.
- There is also a risk of over stimulating the heart and nervous system, which could lead to fits.

The law

Mephedrone is illegal; it is now a Class B drug after being reclassified in April 2010. If you're caught with mephedrone the police will always take action.

Cost

Mephedrone is sometimes sold for as little as £15 a gram online.

The risks

- There has been one reported death in Sweden as a result of taking mephedrone and cannabis.
- Paranoia has been reported.
- The chemicals in Mephedrone are often untested and although have been advertised as safe for human consumption in the past – it is NOT. You don't know what you're taking.
- If any substance that causes a 'high', such as mephedrone, is mixed with alcohol, you put yourself at a greater risk.
- Because chemical based drugs are always changing, their chemical makeup hasn't always been tested. This means that the affect they have on the body is unpredictable.