



TEMPORARY INSANITY

Tori's story

Tori had just started hanging out with Steve. Tori really like Steve and she wanted him to like her too. One night Steve offered her a drug called flakka. Steve said that it wasn't even illegal and it would help them have some fun. Tori decided to take a chance because she didn't want to look "uncool" in front of Steve.

Within an hour of taking it Tori felt disoriented. She woke up the next day in the hospital in extreme pain and was not sure what happened. Tori's mother told her how she and Steve spent the night in jail. Apparently, while high, Tori began hallucinating outside of a local convenient store. She ran inside and started attacking the store clerk. When the police arrived, Steve attacked an officer. It took four officers to contain them.

Tori was very lucky that she had not seriously hurt anyone. The pain she was feeling now was nearly unbearable. She decided not to see Steve anymore and vowed that she would never let herself feel like this again.

TEST YOURSELF!

Take this quiz to find out how much you know about flakka.

1. Flakka is only made with natural ingredients.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. Flakka causes extreme violence.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. Withdrawal symptoms from flakka include extreme pain.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. Flakka can cause a constant hallucinating state.
 - a. True
 - b. False

SAYING NO TO FLAKKA

There are thousands of reasons to say no to flakka.

So what do you say when someone offers you some? Try one of these:

- "No thanks. That stuff makes you crazy."
- "No way! Do you even know what that stuff is?"
- "I'll pass. I've heard that stuff makes you paranoid."

FLAKKA



Answers: 1. b; 2. a; 3. a; 4. a;

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STAY SAFE SERIES

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\$5 INSANITY

WHAT IS FLAKKA?

Flakka is a highly dangerous synthetic drug known chemically as alpha-PVP. Flakka has a similar chemical makeup to the fake cocaine known as bath salts. The greatest difference between flakka and bath salts is that flakka is twice as potent as bath salts and five times more potent than cocaine and meth.

Flakka gets its base ingredient from the khat plant, which produces cathinone, a central nervous system stimulant. However, several harmful chemicals are added in the process. Since flakka is created by different people in unsafe environments it can contain anything from household cleaners to arsenic in the final product. You never really know what you are ingesting and that risk could cost you your life.

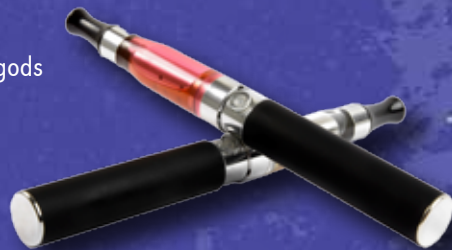
Just one hit of flakka is enough to ruin your life forever. You can easily overdose or be stuck in a hallucinating state for the rest of your life. You won't know your family members and won't be able to do basic things for yourself, or your body can overheat and shut down your organs. Is it really worth the risk?

RECOGNIZING THE DANGER

Common street names

Since Flakka is a relatively new drug it is often passed off as bath salts in a powder or crystal form that can be snorted, injected, ingested, or smoked. Many flakka users smoke it through a vape pen as it gives off no odor. Some street names for flakka include:

- \$5 insanity
- Drug of the gods
- Gravel



FLAKKA IS LEGAL... RIGHT?

Not exactly! On July 10, 2012, the President of the United States signed the Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act of 2012. Synthetic compounds commonly found in flakka and bath salts were banned, placing them under Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. Most states have passed similar laws to keep synthetic drugs off the streets. But these regulations haven't stopped manufactures from designing new versions of the drug that don't include these outlawed compounds. This is why you might see flakka sold in stores and online. These new versions are as bad as or worse than the banned versions.



ARE YOU CRAZY?

Short-term side effects

Flakka can produce all sorts of scary side effects within just a half hour of taking it, because flakka quickly infiltrates your blood stream. Many long time drug users who used flakka for the first time said that they were frightened by the side effects of flakka, because they felt disoriented and out of control. This is what gained flakka the nick name "\$5 insanity." Some of these side effects include:

- Insomnia
- Anxiety
- Panic attacks
- Extreme violence
- Hallucinations
- Paranoia
- Thoughts of suicide



WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS

Painful reminders

Flakka can cause painful withdrawal symptoms after just one use, which include cold sweats, severe pain and nightmares. One user described that she felt like her whole body was on fire and she could neither talk nor move because she was in so much pain. One use of flakka can also cause a constant hallucinating state. Just one time could mean that you can never come down from the high. Other withdrawal symptoms include:

- Depression
- Headaches
- Anxiety
- Muscle cramps
- Stomach pain

CRAVING MORE

Is Flakka addictive?

There's not a lot of research yet about how addictive alpha-PVP is, but researchers and users think that it's possible to get hooked on alpha-PVP, just like you get hooked on illegal drugs like cocaine, heroin and meth.

People who have used flakka say that once they come down from their high, they want more. Regular users say that they build up a resistance to flakka: over time, they need to use more and more to feel high . . . and the more they use, the more paranoid and unstable they become.

