

Chemical Drug Scene

(An update - June 9, 2006)

As result of an eight year intelligence probe conducted by the “E” Division RCMP Drugs and Organized Crime Awareness Service into the Rave, Night Club, Concert and Dance scene, we have learned that Chemical Drugs have become a very popular part of this culture. These drugs are purported to provide stimulation and feelings of openness and peace that are associated with the dance scene.

Chemical drugs are popular among all Dance music genre’s including but not limited to Hip hop, Trip hop, Rap, Techno, Ska, Punk rock and R & B. The drug user feels the drugs provide the stimulation and energy levels needed to dance all night long or for long hours.

Chemical drugs that are associated to the Rave, Night club, Concert and Dance scene include stimulant & hallucinogenic drugs such as Ecstasy or MDMA (the most sought after hallucinogenic amphetamine-like chemical drug), MDA, and stimulant drugs such as Methamphetamine and Cocaine.

An alarming trend surfacing now is the number of poly drug users while under the influence of Ecstasy. Many users will in combination with Ecstasy knowingly use Methamphetamine, Ketamine, Alcohol, Marihuana, DXM, Psilocybin Mushrooms, LSD, GHB (Gamma Hydroxybuturate), Ephedrine and or Ephedra. The expression “Flipping” is street jargon that refers to the use of other drugs with Ecstasy:

- MDMA & Methamphetamine
- MDMA & Magic mushrooms (Hippy Flipping)
- MDMA & Cannabis
- MDMA & LSD (Candy Flipping)
- MDMA & GHB
- MDMA & Ephedrine or Pseudoephedrine
- MDMA & Ketamine (Kitty Flipping)
- MDMA & PCP (Elephant Flipping)
- MDMA & Dextromethorphan (Robo Flipping)
- MDMA & Alcohol

The prevalence of Ecstasy/MDMA, MDA, Ketamine, GHB, as well as Methamphetamine is now being seen in all communities across BC.

As result of the ongoing investigation of rave parties, concerts and night clubs the RCMP Drug Awareness Service, with the assistance of the RCMP Forensic Toxicology Labs, the University of British Columbia Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Health Canada have tested in excess of 1,700 samples of suspected MDMA (Ecstasy) and Methamphetamine. The tested samples were confiscated from drug users and or street level Ecstasy traffickers who were in attendance at various rave, concert and club events by security or police personnel.

The results of analysis of suspected MDMA (Ecstasy) has established that pure MDMA is not as abundant as Rave or Night Club Ecstasy users think it is. A closely related chemical drug known as MDA is also prevalent as well as many Ecstasy cocktails containing MDMA, Methamphetamine and many other drugs.

2005/2006 Chemical Drug Analysis

The results of analysis of 200 samples of chemical drugs in tablet, capsule or powder form has established the following:

**Pure MDMA/Ecstasy (12%)
MDMA/Ecstasy with side products (82%)
Pure MDA (2 %),
Other (4%) {caffeine, ephedrine, Ketamine}**

Note: 160 of 200 samples were tablets that contained Ecstasy (80%).

Trend: 114 of 160 samples were tablets that contained a combination of Ecstasy and Methamphetamine (71%), up considerably since we first began the probe eight years ago (8% in 1999).

The median dose for MDMA was 75 mg (Low - 21 mg, High 167 mg)

The median dose for Methamphetamine was 8 mg (Low - 4 mg, High 22 mg)

Reference: Laboratory Analysis (2005/2006) performed at the Drug Analysis Services Laboratory, Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch (Health Canada), Burnaby, British Columbia under the direction of Analytical Specialist Richard LAING.

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