

K2 OR "SPICE"

What is K2?

K2 is a legal substance marketed since 2006 as a dried herbal blend for use as incense. However, people are smoking the incense because it produces a high similar to marijuana, but of longer duration. The incense is sprayed with JWH-018 before it is packaged for sale. This spray is reportedly an "analgesic chemical which acts as a cannabinoid."

What are other names for this substance?

Orange Dragon Smoke, Black Mamba, Genie, Blaze, Red X Dawn, and Zohai, Spice, K2, Bayou Blaster, Spike Gold, Yucatan Fire, Gorby, Happy Shaman, Serenity

What are the symptoms of using K2?

Symptoms of using this synthetic drug include hallucinations, severe agitation, dangerously elevated heart rate and blood pressure, panic attacks, dilated pupils, very pale skin, vomiting and, in some cases, tremors and seizures. Many individuals stop using the drug because after a week or so of using it they start getting really bad headaches.

Is K2 dangerous?

K2 can be very dangerous because nothing is known about the toxicity of JWH-018. Directly on the packaging, it states, "Not for human consumption."

Why is K2 so popular?

- It is legal
- It does not show up on drug screens, unless used within the prior two hours
- It is easily available on the internet and several locations in Fort Wayne
- It is advertised on local radio stations
- It is believed to be natural, and therefore safe
- It sells for approximately \$30 to \$40 per three gram bag, which is comparable in cost to marijuana.

Has K2 been banned in other places?

K2 has been banned in Britain, Germany, Poland, South Korea, Russia and France internationally. Kansas was the first State in the U.S. to ban this substance. There are other states are considering legislation, including Kentucky, Illinois, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, Utah, and North Dakota.

What can I do?

Discuss the dangers of K2 with tweens, teens and even adults who may be likely to use this substance.

How can I get more information?

For more information, please contact the Chemical Health Initiative of Goodhue County at (651)385-3307 or info@chi-goodhue.org.