

DRUG FACT SHEET

Bath Salts

It is illegal under federal law to sell the chemical compounds that have been created and sold as bath salts.

Class of drug: Synthetic Stimulant

Main active ingredients: MDPV (methylenedioxypyrovalerone) and

mephedrone (which are found in a lower dosage

in legitimate bath salts and plant foods)

What it looks like: White, powdery or crystallized substance packaged

as bath salt

Street names: Ivory Wave, Bolivian Bath, Vanilla Sky, Legal

Cocaine, Snow White, Hurricane Charlie, Bliss, Pure White, Purple Iris, XXX-rated plant food

How it is used: Inhaled, injected, eaten in food and swallowed in

drinks. Bath Salt can be rolled into joints with marijuana and smoked, too (called Head

Trip Potpourri).

Duration of high: The initial rush peaks within 15 minutes to one

hour and can last for five hours. Many users re-dose to extend the effects for a few days.

Withdrawal symptoms: Fatigue, depression, anxiety, psychotic behaviors

Detected in the body: Yes, through quantitative testing for MDPV,

Mephedrone and Methylone, but it is not

detected in routine drug tests

Effects: Mimics the high of cocaine, ecstasy and

amphetamines

Physical—Chest pains, headaches, high blood pressure, increased pulse, muscle twitching,

cravings, insomnia, seizures

Mental—Agitation, delusions, anxiety, paranoia,

hallucinations, violent rages, suicidality

Long-term—Fairly new drug, no long-term

effects have been recorded in humans.

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"The synthetic cathinone products marketed as "bath salts" to evade detection by authorities should not be confused with products such as Epsom salts that are sold to improve the experience of bathing. The latter have no psychoactive (drug-like) properties."

- National Institute on Drug Abuse

U.S. information

In 2015, The American Association of Poison Control Centers reported 522 calls related to exposure to bath salts, compared to 587 in 2014 and 998 in 2013.

Despite being illegal to sell in the U.S., many people are still purchasing bath salts on the internet.

(American Association of Poison Control Centers, National Institute on Drug Abuse)

Sources: http://www.doctoroz.com/videos/alternate-names-bath-salt-drug; http://www.webmd.com/mental-health/features/bath-salts-drug-dangers; US Department of Justice; Quick Fact Alert: Bath Salts, Chestnut Health Systems; www.sober.com/bath-salts.html