

Wisconsin Crime Prevention Practitioners Association

Emerging Drug Threats

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Molly

Sometime in the past decade MDMA returned to the club and party scene re-branded as Molly. This new name gives an innocent vibe to this dangerous drug making it more approachable to a new generation of users. Instead of a pill form, this newer version comes in a powder form contained in a capsule. Proponents say that this is pure MDMA, which makes it safer than previous versions however that is not the case as, in the past, drug dealers continue to mix the drug with other products to maximize their profit.

What is Molly

“Molly,” short for molecule, is the powder or crystal form of MDMA, which is a chemical used in Ecstasy. MDMA is essentially speed with a psychedelic and empathetic twist. It increases the intense effect of the light shows and the music and then it also gives you that stimulant to keep you up and keep you going which explains its long-standing popularity among club and party-goers.

MDMA has been around for many years and was commonly sold in a pill form. MDMA lost its popularity in the 1990’s as pills were starting to become mixed with other products such as caffeine, LSD, ephedrine, aspirin and even talcum powder.

How is it used

Molly is commonly found in a tablet or capsule form and ingested orally. Users have removed the powder in the capsule form and either snorted or smoked it.

Signs of use

Behavioral and physical signs of use can include: jaw clenching; sudden loss of appetite; high and low body temperatures; frequent and inexplicable exhaustion; preoccupation with nightclub life; heightened depression and anxiety; and sleep disorders.

What are the dangers

Molly has proven quite dangerous and even deadly. According to the Drug Abuse Warning Network, nationwide there were more than 22,000 MDMA-related emergency room visits in 2011. It typically takes about 40 minutes for the drug to take effect and those effects last up to 6 hours. Due to this length of onset, users initially may think that the drug is not working and take more doses leading to overdoses. Molly will elevate the users heart rate to dangerously high levels and can cause dehydration and seizures. Users have also suffered from very high temperatures which can lead to organ failure.

