

Hallucinogens

Substance Use Disorders

Hallucinogens

A class of drugs that cause the user to experience hallucinations and alter reality.

Hallucinogens are also known as *psychedelic* drugs.

Hallucinogens can be both natural or synthetic drugs.

Hallucinogens include LSD, Mescaline and Psilocybin and are sometimes associated with *club drugs* and *raves*.

LSD - Lysergic acid diethylamide

LSD, or d-lysergic acid diethylamide, is a hallucinogenic derived from a parasitic fungus that grows on rye.

LSD is produced as a crystal, then dissolved in alcohol prior to sale and consumption.

LSD users describe their experience on the drug as a *trip*.

History of LSD

1938 – While researching blood stimulants, Albert Hoffman synthesizes LSD for the first time.

1943 – Albert Hoffman **accidentally** consumes LSD becoming the first person to consume LSD.

1949 – LSD, and its effects, are studied in Boston and Los Angeles.

1951 – The CIA becomes aware of LSD and begins to experiment with the drug.

History cont...

1952 – The first study is published about treating depression with LSD

1962 – The FDA restricts LSD research & the first LSD related arrests are made.

1963 – LSD is found on the **streets** for the first time in the form of liquid on sugar cubes.

1967 – Federal government outlaw LSD in the United States

1970 – LSD is placed in Schedule 1 of the Controlled Substances Act.

How to use LSD

LSD is generally taken orally in one of three ways:

Pill form

On a piece of blotter paper

Via liquid dripped onto a sugar cube or directly on the users tongue.

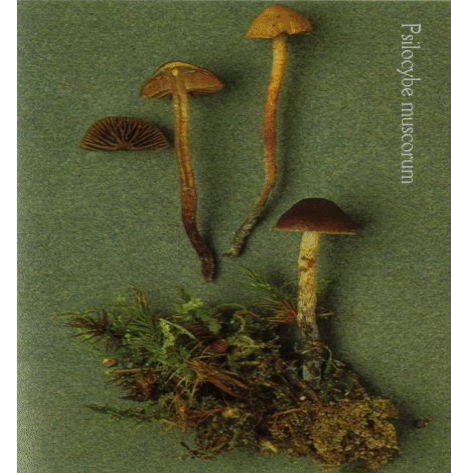
Following ingestion, the drug's effects can be felt for 4-8 hours.

Psilocybin

is a form of mushrooms that contain hallucinogenic properties.

Also known as *magic mushrooms*, psilocybin is classified by the DEA as a Schedule 1 Controlled Substance.

Hallucinogenic mushrooms have, historically, been used by several cultures during their religious rituals.



Ways to consume

Eat – While the mushrooms are usually dried prior to sale and/or consumption, they can be eaten raw or cooked like regular mushrooms.

Drink – Heated with water to make a tea or a soup.

Smoke – The mushroom is ground into a fine powder and often smoked on top of marijuana.

Mescaline

is a psychedelic found in several species of cactus.

Generally, mescaline is a small button shaped cactus 2"-5" in diameter.

Mescaline is not readily available for recreational use because it takes up to fifteen years for a single dose to mature.



Mescaline

Historically, the drug is dried and eaten in a ceremony setting because of its hallucinogenic properties.

Mescaline use was first witnessed in the 1800s where Native American tribes used mescaline during holy ceremonies.

In 1919 mescaline also became the first psychedelic to be synthesized.

Physical Effects of Hallucinogens

Dilated Pupils

Increase Body Temperature

Increased Heart Rate

Increased Blood Pressure

Extreme Sweating

Dry Mouth

Body Tremors

Nausea

Loss of Motor Skills

Loss of Coordination

Seizures

Psychological Effects of Hallucinogens

Vivid hallucinations

Loss of depth perception

Sensation of floating/hanging

Loss of thought process control

Fusion of the senses

Bad Trip

Distorted Perception of Time

Loss of Appetite

Sleeplessness

Hallucinogens and Flashbacks

Flashbacks are a long term side effect of hallucinogens.

It is spontaneous, unpredictable recurrences of the effects of hallucinogens without ingestion of the drug.

There are three types of flashbacks:

Emotional

Somatic

Perceptual

Stay home and safe