

Alcohol

Street Name: Alcohol, Beer, Wine

Routes Of Administration: Oral

Effects: Alcohol has two effects on the body. It has an opiate high as well as a tranquilizing relaxing effect.

Risks: Abrupt cessation of alcohol, in the alcohol dependent person can lead to seizures. In addition to liver concerns, malnutrition often occurs in the alcohol dependent patient.

Alcohol is a sedative. It has a long history as part of the lifestyle of many cultures. To some, it is as commonly used with meals as is water.

Alcohol has two effects on the body. It has an opiate high as well as a tranquilizing relaxing effect. So it is as important for the narcotic abuser to stay off alcohol too because alcohol will remind the brain of an opiate feeling.

Alcohol is in beer, wine and hard spirits. Some desserts and candies contain alcohol. It doesn't hurt to sniff your glass when at a party just to make sure there is no alcohol in your drink.

If alcohol would have been discovered for the first time in modern times, the F.D.A. would never have approved of its release as an over the counter product due to its hazardous effect on the liver. Long term, chronic use leads to a degradation of the liver called cirrhosis. Abrupt cessation of alcohol, in the alcohol dependent person can lead to seizures. It is that fear of seizures and or hallucinations when coming off long term alcohol abuse that leads to relapse in many.

In addition to liver concerns, malnutrition often occurs in the alcohol dependent patient since one has a decreased appetite when drinking alcohol: alcohol satisfies hunger with empty calories that do not contain the vitamins, minerals and proteins needed to maintain proper body function. Vitamin deficiencies of folic acid and thiamine cause particular medical concern.