



Cocaine / Crack

Street Name: Coke, blow, nose candy, flake, big C, lady, snowbirds

Routes Of Administration: IV, intranasal, swallowing. In the free-base form (crack) smoking is the route of administration. The base form of cocaine (crack) does not dissolve in water.

Effects: disturbances in heart rhythm, increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils, decreased appetite, excessive activity, talkativeness, irritability, argumentative behavior, nervousness or agitation.

Risks: loss of coordination, collapse, perspiration, blurred vision, dizziness, feeling of restlessness, anxiety, delusions, heart attacks, chest pain, respiratory failure, strokes, seizures and headaches, abdominal pain, nausea, paranoia.

Cocaine's association with increased sexual activity can lead to unintentional unsafe sex and spread of HIV and hepatitis. In addition, since frequent re-injection can occur, the chance for needle sharing episodes in the use of cocaine is greater than that of sharing needles or "works" with intravenous heroin.

As a marketing ploy: some dealers will give free cocaine with heroin in order to allow the heroin abuser to use more heroin because they will not nod at a low doses. This causes the heroin abuser to use more heroin and therefore to become more heavily addicted. Remember, your dealer is NOT your friend.