Profile: LSD

What is LSD?

LSD (D-lysergic acid diethylamide) is a highly potent synthetic hallucinogen with no accepted medical use in the United States.

What does LSD look like?

In its original form, LSD is a white or clear, odorless, water-soluble crystal that can be crushed into a powder and dissolved. The most common form of LSD is a liquid that has been transferred onto a small paper square (known as “blotter”) or as a microdot tablet. It is also found as a powder or crystal, dried on gelatin sheets (known as “window pane”), put into capsules, or sprinkled on sugar cubes. Other drugs can be laced with LSD, including marijuana.

How is LSD used?

Users usually chew or swallow LSD blotter tabs or microdots, allowing the drug to be absorbed through the gastrointestinal tract.

What are some street names for LSD?

- acid
- doses
- dots
- hits
- trips
- microdot
- barrels
- cid
- lens
- rainbow
- strawberry fields
- domes
- purple haze
- blotter
- boomers
- yellow sunshines
- battery acid
- sugar cube
- Elvis
- blue cheer
- electric Kool-Aid
- tabs
- window pane
- zen
- Superman
How can I tell if someone has taken LSD?

The physical effects of LSD include dilated pupils, salivation or dry mouth, weakness, tremors, facial flushing, chills and gooseflesh, sweating, and loss of appetite. Observers may also note some of the psychological effects, such as the user's distorted sense of time, distorted perception of the body or a sense of “depersonalization" in which one feels one's mind has left one’s body. Some of the adverse effects of a “bad trip,” including paranoia, delusions, intense anxiety, and rapid mood swings may also be evident.

Online Resources

Center for Substance Abuse Research
www.cesar.umd.edu
National Institute on Drug Abuse
www.nida.nih.gov
United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration
www.dea.gov
Office of Drug Control Policy
www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov
Partnership for a Drug Free America
www.drugfreeamerica.org