

# EFFECTS OF HEROIN

Heroin is an illegal, highly addictive drug processed from morphine, a naturally occurring substance extracted from the seed pod of certain varieties of poppy plants.

High purity heroin is commonly ingested through snorting or smoking and may be more appealing to new users because it eliminates the stigma associated with injection drug use. Impure heroin, also known as 'black tar heroin', is usually dissolved, diluted, and injected into veins, muscles, or under the skin.

## BRAIN

- Damage to brain stem or cerebral cortex
- Delusions or hallucinations
- Delayed verbal memory
- Depression
- Confusion
- Memory loss
- Lack of oxygen to brain

## BODY

- Lack of appetite
- Respiratory depression
- Drowsiness and mental clouding
- Nausea and vomiting
- Enlarged pupils
- Runny nose
- Sedation
- Dry mouth
- Slowed heart rate
- Gastrointestinal problems

## BEHAVIOUR

- Drastic violent episodes
- Hyperactivity followed by fatigue
- Shift in core values
- Difficulty with responsibility
- Slurred and hard to understand speech

