

25I-NBOMe N-bomb

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Abstract

In January of 2014 the National Institute on Drug Abuse released a report on new and growing trends in drug use. Among those listed is a compound known to users as N-bomb. This highly dangerous, hallucinogenic substance, although relatively new, is already wreaking havoc on those who choose to use it. Even the smallest amounts can have a variety of deadly side effects. This highly volatile compound has laid claim to multiple victims within the last year, yet its use continues to spread. Its use has become so wide spread it has even caught the attention of the Drug Enforcement Agency. On November 15, 2013 the DEA illegalized 25I-NBOMe, as well as two other variants, 25C-NBOMe and 25B-NBOMe. Even still this drug is easily acquired, via the internet and other illicit channels. What is this new drug and why has it become so popular? What effect might it have on its users, in both the short and long term? These are only a few of the questions about N-bomb that need to be addressed. It is also important that we educate ourselves, as well as others, about the dangers involved should one choose to utilize this drug

Keywords

Drug abuse; Drug; Hallucinogenic compounds; Phenethylamine compound

Introduction

Throughout history mankind has used a variety of hallucinogenic compounds for different reasons. Some sought them out for medicinal purposes; others utilized them due to religious beliefs. Yet as with other drugs, many choose to partake of them for no other reason than to experience their effects; in an effort to get high. This can be seen throughout history in drugs such as laudanum and cocaine. Like so many other drugs these were initially marketed for their medicinal benefits. So understandably one would assume that the chemical compound 25I-NBOMe would have come about in a similar manner. This is not the

case. 25i, as well as its other variants, have not been approved for medical use in any way, nor has it been approved to be safe for human consumption. So what exactly is this compound? Among the drug using culture it is

known by a variety of names, such as "Smiles, N-Bomb, Legal Acid, and others. These seemingly harmless sounding names do little to prepare them for what is to come. Heigh that users of this drug experience is many times more powerful than that of LSD or Mescaline.

Conclusion

Everyday research chemists around the world develop new drugs. These drugs are normally intended to benefit mankind. Yet, there will always be those that wish to profit at the expense of others. Just as we seek to stem the flow of illicit substances onto the streets, they wish to bring forth more and more substances to line their pockets. They browse the internet, scouring over research article after research article, looking for the next big thing. They care little for what effect it may have on the users in long term. Their only concern is will it create a strong enough effect on the user to get the word out about the new compound. It is our job as counsellors to not only understand that this is occurring, but to match their dedication and tenacity with our own. We need to understand what these drugs are and how they might affect users in both the short as well as the long term. We then must share this knowledge with others, so that when people do encounter these substances, they have a base understanding of what they may be getting into. There will always be new drugs out there, and we will never be able to catch them all. But it is all of our jobs to try. 25iNBOMe is not the first, and will not be the last designer drug to victimize our young people. No amount of legislation passed will prevent users from acquiring the highs that they seek. Yet with enough information and research we just might prevent anymore unnecessary deaths from occurring

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