



# ***Addictions: Warning Signs***

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# CONTENTS

- **Common Red Flags**
- **Symptoms In School**
- **Symptoms At Home**

- ***Signs of Intoxication***
  - **Alcohol, Sedatives, Hypnotics, Anxiolytics**
  - **Amphetamine or Similar-Acting Sympathomimetics**
  - **Cannabis**
  - **Cocaine**
  - **Hallucinogens**



# Common Red Flags

- **Chronic requests for money**
- **Fatigue**
- **Repeated health complaints**
- **Red and glazed eyes**
  
- **Lasting cough**
- **Talking or acting “weird”**
- **Increased agitation, irritability, arguments, conflict**
- **Depression, anxiety, mood instability**
  
- **Personality change, sudden mood changes**
- **General lack of interest**
- **Negative attitude**
- **Secretiveness**



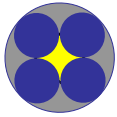
# School-Related Symptoms

- **Truancy, absenteeism esp. on Mondays**
- **Falling asleep in class**
- **Decreased interest, negative attitude**
- **Problems with grades, discipline, social**
  
- **Problematic new friends who are disinterested in school/family**
- **Changes to less conventional styles in dress and music**
- **Sudden disregard in physical appearance**
- **Anger outbursts, acting irresponsibly, attitude change**
  
- **Deterioration of physical appearance and grooming.**
- **Sunglasses and/or long sleeve shirts at odd times/places**
- **Frequent trips to storage rooms, restroom, basement, etc.**
- **Feeling exhausted, depressed, hopeless, or suicidal**



# Problems At Home

- **Withdrawal from family, friends, community**
- **Legal trouble - DWI/DUI**
- **Increase in injuries**
  
- **Increase in medical problems, doctor's visits**
- **Financial difficulties**
- **Deterioration and personal hygiene**
  
- **Irresponsible behavior**
- **Poor judgment, breaking rules**
- **Cutting down sports, homework, hobbies**



*Signs of Intoxication With*  
**Alcohol, Sedatives, Hypnotics, Anxiolytics**

**During or shortly after use:**

- **Slurred speech**
- **Poor coordination**
- **Unsteady gait**
  
- **Nystagmus**
- **Impairment in attention or memory**
- **Stupor or coma**



*Signs of Intoxication With*  
**Amphetamine**  
**or Similar-Acting Sympathomimetics**

- **Euphoria or affective blunting**
- **Changes in sociability**
- **Hypervigilance**
  
- **Interpersonal sensitivity**
- **Anxiety**
- **Tension or anger**
  
- **Impaired social or occupational functioning**



## *Signs of Intoxication With* **Cannabis**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> most common drug in USA**
- **Motor coordination impaired**
- **Euphoria**
- **Anxiety**
- **Sensation of slowed time**
- **Impaired judgment**
- **Social withdrawal**

### 2+ signs w/in 2 hrs of use:

- **Conjunctival injection**
- **Increased appetite**
- **Dry mouth**
- **Tachycardia**





## *Signs of Intoxication With* **Cocaine**

### Chronic users w/ 2+ symptoms during/shortly after use:

- Euphoria or effective blunting
- Changes in sociability, hypervigilance
- Perceptual disturbances
  
- Interpersonal sensitivity, anxiety, tension, anger
- Stereotyped behaviors, impaired judgment
- Impaired social or occupational functioning
  
- *Often overwhelmed, irritable, feeling panicky, paranoid*
- *Occasional auditory, visual hallucinations, very dysphoric*
  
- *State of desperation can precipitate*
  - *intense suicidal ideation*
  - *Even violence*



## *Signs of Intoxication With* **Hallucinogens**

- **Still widely used, popular esp. w/ young adults**
- **Response is variable:**
  - **May have marked anxiety or depression**
  - **Ideas of reference**
  - **Fear of losing one's mind**
  
  - **Paranoid ideation**
  - **Impaired judgment**
  - **Impaired social or occupational functioning**



## *Signs of Intoxications With* **Opioids**

- **After initial rush, alternately wakeful & drowsy**
- **Often drowsy for several hours**
- **Initial euphoria followed by:**
  - **Apathy**
  - **Dysphoria**
  - **Psychomotor agitation and retardation**
  - **Impaired judgment**
  
  - **Impaired social or occupational functioning**
  - **Pupillary constriction**
  - **Slurred speech and impairment in memory**