

## **What are Cathinones?**

- Cathinones are a family of drugs that belong to the psychedelic phenethylamine family.
- Cathinones are often sold online under various "trade names", including Explosion and Ease. MDPV was commonly sold as "bath salts" over the counter.
- MDPV ("bath salts") is not designed to be used in your bath water.
- Many cathinones are a Schedule I controlled substance in the United States.

# **How are Cathinones used?**

- Cathinones are almost always consumed orally or by insufflation (snorting). They
  can also be consumed by smoking, via rectal insertion, and intravenously.
- Snorting and injecting anything increase your risk for HIV and Hep C transmission, therefore users should never share straws, spoons, or needles.

### What are the effects of Cathinones?

- Cathinone users report an introspection of feelings and emotions. In addition, many people report an increase in sexual libido and willingness to explore partners intimate side of things.
- Negative effects include nausea, vomiting, gastrointestinal discomfort, paranoia, fear, over-awareness and over-sensitization to music and noise, and muscle tension.
   Negative side effects can increase with higher doses.
- Cathinones such as MDPV commonly decreases awareness of the need for food and sleep.
- At higher doses of some cathinones (or with repeat use) many users notice disturbed sleep patterns, involuntary twitching in the eyes, head and neck, muscle tension in the extremities and elevated heart rate.
- · Hallucinations and psychotic behavior have been reported with the extended use.
- Cathinone use may lead to violence, homicidal combative behavior, self-mutilation, coma, and death

#### Are Cathinones addictive?

- Cathinones like MDPV can be highly addictive. Regular use can result in physical dependency with long-lasting withdrawal symptoms.
- Many users notice a desire to re-use cathinones like MDPV as the effects wear off.
- Repeated use and high doses can lead rapidly to symptoms characteristic of amphetamine psychosis.

#### What is the dosage of Cathinones?

Every individual reacts differently to every chemical. This information is intended to describe the range of dosages others report using and it should not be construed as a recommendation of any sort. Individuals can respond very differently to the same dosage. What is safe for one can be deadly for another. Because reagent testing cannot differentiate the cathinones from each other, dosage car vary widely from one sample to the next.

- Oral dose ranges from 60mg 250mg and common amounts used fall within 100mg - 250mg.
- Insufflated dose ranges from 30mg 100 mg. The dose of MDPV as a powder is between 2mg and 25mg orally, and between 1mg and 10mg insufflated.
- When sold under brand names, cathinones are often in pre-measured packages.
   The actual amount of the drug in these packages is rarely provided by the manufacturer, making knowing an accurate dose almost impossible.

### **Harm Reduction Tips for Cathinones**

These are newer substances with a limited history of human use. The full range or risks for these substances are currently unknown.

Reagent color reactions for N-Ethylpentylone, a common cathinone and adulterant:

#### Marquis

#### Mecke

# Mandelin

- Starting with a small amount before deciding to take more can prevent having an overwhelming experience, and minimize the chance of overdosing.
- If compulsive re-dosing occurs, let others know what you are using, and how often.
- A drug test might show positive results for PCP with MDPV in your system.
- Using stimulants with other stimulants can result in over-stimulation and potentially dangerous increases in blood pressure, heart rate/rhythm, and core temperature.
- The combined effects of stimulants and depressants often results some of the effects from one or more drug being reduced in either perceived or actual severity.
- Due to issues of adulteration, misrepresentation, and lack of research--which are a common problem with novel psychoactive substances, take extra care when considering using these substances.
- As with all substances, "set" and "setting" are extremely important. By making sure that a person is in a good mental state and supportive location before cathinones are used, the risk of bad experiences can be greatly mitigated.