I. About Club Drugs

- **Drug Class:** Psychoactive – Various Controlled Substances

- **Club Drugs** refers to a wide variety of drugs (a/k/a party pills) being used by young people at dance clubs, bars, and all–night dance parties (“trances” or “raves”).

- **These parties** are usually held in a clandestine location with high–volume music, high–tech entertainment, and easy access to drugs.

- **Club drugs are attractive to today’s youth** because they are inexpensive and produce increased stamina and intoxicating highs.

- **Because many of these drugs are** colorless, tasteless, and odorless, they can be secretly added to beverages by individuals who want to intoxicate or sedate others.

- **The most widely used club drugs are:** Ecstasy, Gamma Hydroxy – butyrate (GHB), Ketamine, Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD) and Rohypnol.

II. Terms & Slangs

- **Ecstasy:** Adam, E, Lover’s Speed, X, XTC. **GHB:** Easy Lay, Georgia Homeboy, Goop, Grieve Bodily Harm, Liquid Ecstasy, Liquid X, Max & Soap. **Ketamine:** Jet, K, Kit Kat, Special K, Super Acid & Vitamin K. **LSD:** Acid, Boomers & Yellow Sunshine. **Methamphetamine:** Crystal, Ice, Meth, Tweak. **Rohypnol:** Forget Me Drug, Roaches, Roofies & R–2.

III. “About The Buzz”

- **Ecstasy:** Also known as MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine) and the most frequent, Ecstasy is a stimulant that combines the effects of amphetamines and hallucinogens.

- **Gamma Hydroxybutyrate:** GHB is a central nervous system depressant. Originally available over the counter in health food stores to aid body builders, GHB and other synthetic steroids are also used for their euphoric effects.

- **Ketamine:** Is usually snorted or injected intramuscularly. A rapid–acting general anesthetic, ketamine produces a wide range of feelings, from weightlessness to out–of–body or near–death experiences.

- **Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD)** This hallucinogen produces unpredictable effects, depending on the amount taken, the surroundings in which the drug is used, and the user’s personality, mood, and expectations.

- **Methampethamines:** This drug has gained steam in recent years as a club drug even though they don’t have the sedating effects of many of the other common club drugs. Meth can cause violent and psychotic behavior, memory loss and heart problems.

- **Rohypnol:** Is usually taken orally, although there are reports that it can be ground up and snorted. Known as the “date rape drug,” Rohypnol is a central nervous system depressant that produces sedative–hypnotic effects, muscle relaxation, and amnesia. When mixed with alcohol, Rohypnol can incapacitate victims and prevent them from resisting sexual assault.

IV. Effects & Health Risks

- **Affects On The Brain:** Research has shown that club drugs can have long–lasting negative effects on the brain > impairing the senses, memory, judgment and motor skills.

- **Affects On The Body:** Different club drugs have different effects on the body. For instance, club drugs like ecstasy are stimulants that increase your heart rate and blood pressure and can lead to heart or kidney failure. Other club drugs like GHB, are depressants that can cause drowsiness, unconsciousness or respiratory complications.

- **Affects On Self–Control/Behavior** Club drugs like GHB and Rohypnol are used in “date rape” and other assaults because they are sedatives that can make you unconscious and immobilize you. Rohypnol can cause a kind of amnesia – users may not remember what they said or did while under the effects of the drug.

V. Knowing The Risks

- **Club Drugs Are Not Always What They Seem:** Because club drugs are illegal and often produced in makeshift laboratories, it is impossible to know exactly what chemicals were used to produce them. **How strong or dangerous any illegal drug is varies each time.**

- **Legal Issue:** It is illegal to buy or sell club drugs. It is also a federal crime to use any controlled substances to aid in a sexual assault.

- **Club Drugs Are Addictive**

- **Club Drugs Can Kill You:** Mixing club drugs together or with alcohol is extremely dangerous. The effects of one drug can magnify the effects and risks of another. **Mixing substances can be lethal.** High doses of club drugs can cause severe breathing problems, coma, or even death.

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Some Helpful Resources/Referrals

- **Club Drugs**
  
  [www.clubdrugs.gov](http://www.clubdrugs.gov)

- **National Institute of Drug Abuse**
  

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* Project Towards No Drug Abuse Education Series Courtesy of Angel Colon and Stuyvesant High School’s SPARK Program