



### PARAPHERNALIA:

- Grinders
- Pocket sized gram scales
- Coke spoons
- Tubular devices known as "tooters"  
*These range from straws to rolled currency*
- Razors
- Glass vials
- Lighters
- Tin foil

### WHAT ARE THE HEALTH HAZARDS:

Health risks do exist whether cocaine is inhaled (snorted), injected, or smoked. If smoked, compulsive cocaine use may develop quicker than if the substance is snorted. Inhaling can lead to damage of the cartilage and mucosa of the nose, resulting in its collapse. Injecting the drug makes the user at risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV infection/AIDS if they share the needles.

For additional information related to the contents of this brochure, please contact the Office of Attorney General Education & Outreach Unit.

### Truth & Choices

The Office of Attorney General has created this new anti-drug program to introduce middle and high school students to Shane. A popular kid from a suburban Pennsylvania school, Shane shares this true story of hard choices and near death experiences due to drugs and alcohol. The presentation features interviews with Shane (from prison), his family, law enforcement and the medical community. It's a reality check for all students and will open a unique dialogue about the realities of substance abuse. There is also a program for parents. Both programs are available on DVD and can be ordered free-of-charge from the Office of Attorney General Education & Outreach Unit.

To order a copy of the DVD and/or to request a "Truth & Choices" school or community presentation to be given by the Office of Attorney General, please contact our Education & Outreach Unit toll-free at **800-525-7642** or via email at [education@attorneygeneral.gov](mailto:education@attorneygeneral.gov).

# COCAINE

- Snow
- Snow White
- Charlie
- Toot
- Girl
- Coke
- Nose candy
- Blow
- C-Dust
- Flake
- Big C
- Snowbirds

*Cocaine is an extremely dangerous and addictive narcotic that is the second most commonly used illicit drug in the United States. Abuse of this common street drug can lead to severe addiction and serious health consequences. Injecting the drug makes the user at risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV/AIDS if the needles are shared.*

*Cocaine remains a problem across our state and throughout our country. Please read over the information in this brochure, educate yourself about the problem and report suspected cocaine use or production to the office of Attorney General or your local police department.*

## WHAT IS COCAINE?

Cocaine is the second most commonly used illicit drug in the United States. A colorless or white crystalline narcotic alkaloid extracted from the leaves of the Erythroxylon coca plant. Cocaine is a strong central nervous system stimulant and a powerfully addictive drug of abuse, which is cultivated in the Andean highlands of South America. It has a bitter, numbing taste. The major ways of taking cocaine are inhaling (sniffing, snorting), injecting or smoking. This includes free-base and crack cocaine.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Cocaine is a stimulant that speeds up the central nervous system, producing a feeling of euphoria and power.

## PHYSICAL EFFECTS:

The physical effects of cocaine include:

- constricted peripheral blood vessels
- dilated pupils
- increased body temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure.
- Feelings of restlessness
- irritability and anxiety
- tolerance to the cocaine “high”

## IS COCAINE ADDICTIVE?

Yes, it is extremely addictive. Users crave it after only a few uses, it gives them self-confidence, power and exhilaration. The high only lasts about thirty minutes, and is quickly followed by a depression known as a “crash.” If use continues, the user needs more cocaine to feel high and the more cocaine the user takes the worse the crash. This is known as the “roller-coaster effect.”

## SIGNS OF USE:

- excess activity
- mental clarity
- nervous
- irritable
- argumentative
- fidgety
- dry mouth and nose
- frequent lip licking
- rubbing and scratching
- paranoia
- aggression
- no appetite
- weight loss
- long periods of not sleeping
- depression after the effects wear off

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

One gram of powder cocaine usually sells for \$100 in most cities.

## PACKAGING:

Cocaine is packaged in a variety of ways

- folded papers – called “bindles”
- small vials
- zip lock baggies and Tupperware containers
- small envelopes
- tin foil

## STREET NAMES:

Snow  
Snow White  
Charlie  
Toot

Girl  
Coke  
Nose candy  
Blow

C-Dust  
Flake  
Big C  
Snowbirds