



Nottingham
Recovery
Network

Drug & Alcohol Support in Nottingham

Information about Cocaethylene



Cocaine

Cocaine is a highly addictive stimulant. Cocaine works primarily by increasing the levels of dopamine and epinephrine activation in the brain, along with a smaller spiking of serotonin. Use of Cocaine can bring a surge of euphoria, alertness, confidence and a feeling of power and energy. Bodily effects of the drug include increased heart rate, increased blood pressure, constricted blood vessels, increased body temperature and decreased appetite. These effects can be especially dangerous to those with existing heart or blood pressure issues, or those with a family history of heart conditions.



Alcohol

Alcohol is the most widely used drug in the world. Alcoholic drinks contain the chemical ethanol. This form of alcohol is a by-product of the fermentation process, which is the reaction of sugars and yeast. Alcohol is a depressant, and it slows down your central nervous system and it can impact your mood and mental health. Alcohol stops the release of neurotransmitters in the brain, that slow down normal bodily responses.

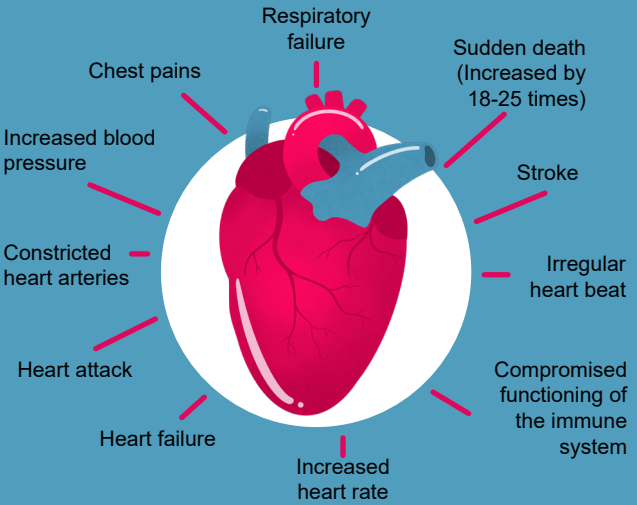


Cocaethylene

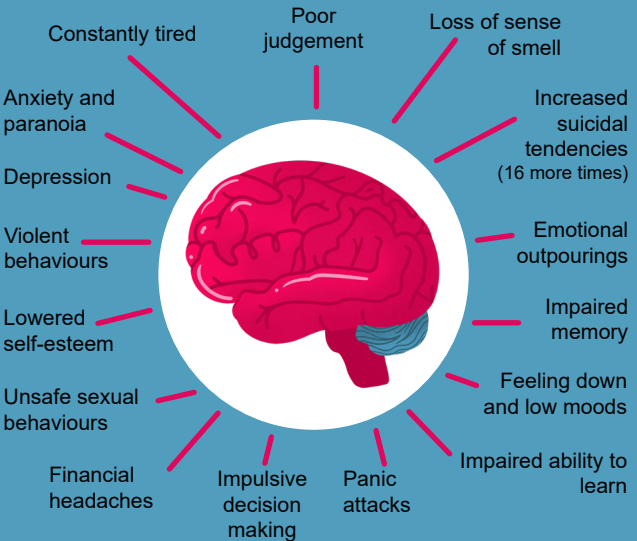
Cocaethylene is a dangerous and harmful substance that is formed in the body when cocaine and alcohol are used together. The combination of these two substances increases the risk of overdose, liver damage, and other health problems. Alcohol increases the amount of cocaine absorption that gets into the bloodstream and by masking some of the sedating and confusing effects of alcohol with a stimulant, users may end up drinking more and not feeling the effects of the alcohol, which is dangerous for over-drinking. Heart rate rises further when the drugs are mixed than compared with either substance alone, posing greater risk to the cardiovascular system.

Effects of Cocaethylene

On the heart



On the brain



Sharing equipment (straws, rolled banknotes etc) is potentially dangerous. Cocaine and chemicals which are cut with it can damage the lining of the nose leaving people at risk of infection. Diseases such as Hepatitis B and C can all be passed on and contracted through sharing this way.

Cocaethylene is a dangerous and harmful substance that is formed in the body when cocaine and alcohol are used together. The combination of these two substances increases the risk of overdose, liver damage, and other health problems. If you or someone you know uses cocaine and alcohol together, it is important to take steps to reduce the harm caused by cocaethylene.

Here are some harm reduction tips for using cocaine and alcohol together:

1. Use smaller amounts: Using smaller amounts of cocaine and alcohol can reduce the risk of cocaethylene's effect. It can also allow you to test the strength and purity of the cocaine, reducing the risk of overdose.

2. Space out your use: Using cocaine and alcohol together can increase the risk of overdose. Spacing out your use can reduce the risk of overdose and other health problems.

3. Stay hydrated: Using cocaine and alcohol together can cause dehydration. Staying hydrated can help reduce the risk of health problems.

4. Avoid using alone: Using cocaine and alcohol together can increase the risk of a stimulant overdose. Using with a friend means emergency medical attention is more likely to be sought than when you are alone.

Remember, using cocaine and alcohol together can be dangerous and harmful.

Taking steps to reduce the harm caused by cocaethylene can help protect your health and safety.



5. Seek medical attention if needed:

If you or someone you know is experiencing any signs of a stimulant overdose such as; paranoia, excessive sweats, tightness of chest or chest pains, breathing difficulties, heart palpitations or hallucinations, it is important to seek immediate medical attention by calling 999 or attending Accident and Emergency.

6. Seek support: If you are struggling with cocaine and alcohol use, it is important to seek support. There are many resources available, including support groups, counselling, and addiction treatment programmes.



How to ask for our help

There are three main ways that people can ask for help or learn more about our work.

Visit us in-person

Just come along to the Nottingham Wellbeing Hub during opening hours. There is no need to book an appointment.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: **9.30am - 4.00pm**

Wednesday: **9.30am - 6.00pm**

Saturday: **9.30am - 12.00pm**



We are based at the Nottingham Wellbeing Hub, 73 Hounds Gate, Nottingham NG1 6BB.

Contact us online

You can email our team at

info@nottinghamrecoverynetwork.com


Or you can complete our online contact form at

www.nottinghamrecoverynetwork.com


Call us

Call our dedicated team on **0800 066 5362**

If you are working with someone who you feel would benefit from our support, you can make a referral on their behalf.

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