

Fact Sheet

Bath Salts

(Designer Drug)

Also known as: Ivory Wave, Blow, Red Dove, Vanilla Sky, Aura, Zeus 2, Zoom, Bliss, Blue Silk, White Lightning, Ocean, Charge, Cosmic Blast, Scarface, Hurricane Charlie, Cloud 9, Energy 1, White Dove, and others.



What are “bath salts” and what does it contain?

“Bath salts” is a powerful “designer drug” that causes severe side effects. The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has confirmed that much of the supply is coming in from China and is distributed to “head shops”, convenience stores and through the internet. This drug is not useful as a bath product. This product can contain one of many “designer drugs”, most likely MDPV (methylenedioxy pyrovalerone); but it could also contain mephedrone (a Khat derivative).

Are “bath salts” legal?

Specific “bath salt” ingredients MDPV and mephedrone are Schedule I drugs in Michigan which makes them illegal to sell or use. Nationally, the federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) temporarily placed these chemicals on Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). Currently, DEA has determined that because MDPV is an analogue of a drug that is on Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), “law enforcement cases involving MDPV can be prosecuted under the Federal Analogue Act of the CSA.” On June 6, 2012, the St. Clair County Health Department issued a public health “Emergency Order” to local retailers and distributors to withdrawal this product from point of sale or distribution in St. Clair County.

What is the pattern of abuse for this product?

Most users are experienced drug users/abusers. Their ages range from 15 – 61 years. Some binge for 3-4 days. “Bath salts” are snorted, ingested mixed with water, injected, or inserted rectally or vaginally. There is craving for more once the binge is over.

What are the signs/symptoms of “bath salts” use?

Use of “bath salts” causes severe side effects that include: extreme paranoia, seizures, violent behavior, a decreased need for sleep, hallucinations, lack of appetite, chest pain, and self-mutilation. Users frequently describe the high as “horrible” and report seeing demons, monsters, foreign soldiers or aliens. Some have symptoms for 2-3 days. Some require long term psychiatric care because their symptoms weren’t improving. Even a one-time use of this drug can cause long term health effects including: kidney failure, long term mental illness, liver failure, self-mutilation, increased risk of suicide, and death.

What should health care providers do if they receive patients who are “bath salt” users?

Michigan Department of Community Health has provided a fact sheet for physicians on its website, http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Bath_Salts_FAQ_Health_Care_Providers_344881_7.pdf. Although there is no mandated reporting requirement, as part of the Children’s Hospital of Michigan Poison Control Centers ongoing surveillance of designer drugs, they encourage hospitals to contact them by calling (800) 222-1222.

What if I have more questions about this product?

The Michigan Poison Control Center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to answer medical questions or concerns related to poisoning events: Hotline is: **(800) 222-1222**. For more information or services for mental health and substance use disorders contact: Community Mental Health 24 hour crisis help line: **(888) 225-4447**.

To report sales or distribution of this product: Contact your local law enforcement office.



For more sources of information on this topic visit:

ST. CLAIR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT www.scchealth.co

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES www.michigan.gov/mdhhs

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH www.scccmh.org

For more information on the side effects visit:

<http://awaremed.com/addictioneducation/bath-salts-dangerous-side-effects/>