

DRUG TERMINOLOGY

Health

Hazard Potential

- The degree of likelihood that drug use may create a problem.

Tolerance

- Needing more and more of a drug to produce the same effect.

Impaired Judgment

- Effects on the brain that lessen the ability of the individual to make decisions based on intellect and reasoning.

Short-term Effects

- Side effects that result immediately from using a drug.

Chronic Long term Effects

- Effects that occur from the use of a drug over a period of time.

Psychological Dependency

- Habituation characterized by an overwhelming recurrent urge to repeat an experience; often becomes primary in a person's life.

Physical Dependency

- Physical addiction characterized by tolerance and the presence of withdrawal symptoms when abstinence is attempted.

Withdrawal

- Physical effects that occur when a person stops using a drug that he or she is dependent on.

Adverse Reaction

- A severe physical or emotional side effects that result from a drug's use.

Lethal Overdose

- Death due to taking too much of a drug or experiencing a severe allergic reaction that results in death.

Drug Interactions

- Adverse reactions or death from mixing various drugs.

Synergistic Effects

- Using two drugs together can cause the effects to be much greater than would be expected based on the effects of each drug alone.