

- Cocaine is a powerfully addictive stimulant drug made from the leaves of the coca plant native to South America. It produces short-term euphoria, energy, and talkativeness in addition to potentially dangerous physical effects like raising heart rate and blood pressure. The more potent form of cocaine, termed “crack cocaine”, is cut with ammonia, baking soda, or some other substance. This derivation of cocaine is highly addictive, even following first-time use.
- **Street names:** Blow, Bump, C, Candy, Charlie, Coke, Crack, Flake, Rock, Snow
- **Uses:** the powdered form of cocaine can be introduced to the body in many different ways. The most common of these methods is snorting through the nose. Another way that cocaine can be administered into the body is by dissolving in water and injecting it directly into the bloodstream. Crack cocaine is typically smoked, and derived its name from the crackling sound heard when the rock is heated.
- **Physical Effects:** Some of the physical effects of cocaine are seen immediately after the drug has been introduced to the body. The common effects include constriction of blood vessels, dilated pupils, and increases in body temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure. A common side effect from cocaine is induced nosebleeds, which results from the drug being snorted through the nasal cavity.
- **Psychological Effects:** Some of the effects of cocaine are also induced on a behavioral level. Common psychological effects include