## Ketamine

- Ketamine is a dissociative anesthetic meaning that it distorts the user's perception of sight and sound and causes feelings of detachment from the environment and oneself. It may produce hallucinations causing it to become popular (Cesar).
- Street names: Special K, Vitamin K, K, Super K, Ketaset, Jet, Super Acid, Green, Purple, Mauve, Special LA Coke (Cesar)
- o <u>Uses:</u> Ketamine is used intranasally or orally. It is used as a liquid to be injected or transformed into a powder to be snorted or compressed into a pill (Cesar).
- Short-Term Physical Effects: High doses of Ketamine can cause muscle twitches, dizziness, slurred speech, nausea, and vomiting. It can also cause difficulty with balance, muscle weakness, numbness, and impaired vision. Other symptoms include flashbacks, amnesia, impaired motor functioning, delirium, dramatic increase in heart rate, loss of touch with reality, loss of coordination, sense of invulnerability, muscle rigidity, and aggressive or violent behavior. (Cesar)
- Psychological Effects: The effects of ketamine depend on the amount of dose. One to two kilograms produces up to an hour of experience including a sense of floating, disociation, stimulation, and hallucinations. Larger doses cause what is called a "K-Hole", which results in an out-of-body or near-death experience. Its effects can leave the user vulnerable to forms of crime like date-rape. (Cesar)
- Long-Term Effects: High doses of ketamine can result in respiratory depression and death from overdose. (Cesar)
- Withdrawal Symptoms: One can develop a very high tolerance to Ketamine very quickly. Effects of withdrawal are not yet known. (Cesar)

## Source:

<u>Center for Substance Abuse Research</u> [http://www.cesar.umd.edu]