

# Flakka (alpha-PVP)



- Alpha-PVP is popularly known as Flakka.
- Flakka is a dangerous synthetic drug.
- Flakka is chemically similar to the synthetic drug called bath salts.
- Vaporizing Flakka may make it particularly easy to overdose.
- Flakka has been linked to deaths by suicide as well as heart attack.

Use of a dangerous synthetic cathinone drug called alpha-pyrrolidinopentiophenone (alpha-PVP), popularly known as "Flakka," is surging in Florida and is also being reported in other parts of the country, according to news reports.

**Alpha-PVP** is chemically similar to other synthetic cathinone drugs popularly called "bath salts," and takes the form of a white or pink, foul-smelling crystal that can be:

- eaten
- snorted
- injected
- vaporized in an e-cigarette or similar device

Vaporizing, which sends the drug very quickly into the bloodstream, may make it particularly easy to overdose. Like other drugs of this type, alpha-PVP can cause a condition called "excited delirium" that involves:

- hyperstimulation
- paranoia
- hallucinations that can lead to violent aggression and self-injury

The drug has been linked to deaths by suicide as well as heart attack. It can also dangerously raise body temperature and lead to kidney damage or kidney failure.

## National Resources

Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)  
1.800.662.HELP (4357)

National Institute on Drug Abuse  
[www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov)



**CONNECTICUT**  
Mental Health & Addiction Services



**CONNECTICUT**  
**Clearinghouse**  
a program of the Connecticut Center  
for Prevention, Wellness and Recovery

**800.232.4424 (phone)**  
**860.793.9813 (fax)**  
**[www.ctclearinghouse.org](http://www.ctclearinghouse.org)**

A Library and Resource Center on Alcohol, Tobacco, Other Drugs, Mental Health and Wellness