

Flakka (alpha-PVP)



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.

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- Flakka is a dangerous synthetic drug.
- Flakka is chemically similar to the synthetic drug called bath salts.
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National Resources

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National Institute on Drug Abuse
www.drugabuse.gov



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