

LSD (ACID)



Lysergic acid diethylamide also known as LSD or 'Acid' is a type of psychedelic drug. When used at any dosage small to large it can alter the way you think, how you feel and perceive yourself/the world, this is generally caused by hallucinations (also known as tripping).

When under the influence common symptoms of LSD include

- Sensory enhancement
- Rapid changes of emotional state
- Hallucinations and spiritual experiences leading to revelations about self and the world (important to note these aren't always a good thing, can be unwanted and traumatic).
- Excessive sweating
- Loss of emotional control
- Looping in and out of consciousness

Risks involved with misuse of LSD are mainly physiological, LSD has a fast building tolerance if taken often, and hence someone who is misusing this drug will need a higher dosage to gain the same high.

One of the main long-term impacts LSD can have is hallucinogen persisting perception disorder (HPPD) also known as 'acid-flashbacks'. This occurs after use of LSD, and involves periods of time randomly where your perception and senses become distorted suddenly, affecting what you see, feel, hear or taste.

Because LSD takes effect on your emotions and abilities to relate to others, it is a particularly impairing drug within the workplace or home, it's harder for the individual to engage in everyday social interactions while high or on the comedown.

NBOMe:

Much like MDMA being laced with bath salts, there is another synthetic hallucinogenic drug on market in New Zealand being advertised as LSD, known as NBOMe, (also referred to as N bomb).

When taken, this synthetic hallucinogenic can have a much more dangerous and unpleasant affect than LSD. As it is a new drug little research has been done, with similar symptoms to LSD NBOMe creates a more intense and lasting 'trip', with long term effects that are suggested to cause

- kidney problems
- Stroke (brain bleed)
- Brain damage
- High white blood cell count

→ Weak muscles and movement problems

These drugs are highly potent and have been linked to many deaths overseas. It is essential if one was to purchase LSD, to get the drugs checked prior to use, as N-Bomb is sold in similar forms to LSD (e.g. on blotting paper).

Seek professional help if you or someone you know is:

- Having unpleasant thoughts, feelings and flashbacks
- Using more LSD than planned or wanted to
- Finding it difficult to stop using
- Using LSD weekly or more frequently
- Unstoppable thoughts about LSD and an urge to use
- Other's and/or yourself becoming concerned about the LSD use
- Has experienced taking NBOMe by mistake on multiple occasions
- Unpleasant effects outweighing the pleasant effects