

## Ketamine□

Street terms for Ketamine: jet, super acid, Special "K", green, K, cat Valium<sup>1</sup>

What does Ketamine look like?

- Ketamine comes in a clear liquid and a white or off-white powder form.

How is Ketamine used?

- Ketamine is a tranquilizer most commonly used on animals.
- The liquid form can be injected, consumed in drinks, or added to smokable materials.
- The powder form can be used for injection when dissolved.<sup>2</sup>
- In certain areas, Ketamine is being injected intramuscularly.<sup>3</sup>

Who uses Ketamine?

- Ketamine, along with the other "club drugs," has become popular among teens and young adults at dance clubs and "raves."

How does Ketamine get into the United States?

- Marketed as a dissociative general anesthetic for human and veterinary use, the only known source of Ketamine is via diversion of pharmaceutical products.
- Recent press reports indicate that a significant number of veterinary clinics are being robbed specifically for their Ketamine stock.
- DEA reporting indicates that a major source of Ketamine in the United States is product diverted from pharmacies in Mexico.<sup>4</sup>

How much does Ketamine cost?

- Prices average \$20 to \$25 per dosage unit.<sup>5</sup>

What are some consequences of Ketamine use?

- Higher doses produce an effect referred to as "K-Hole," an "out of body," or "near-death" experience.<sup>6</sup>
- Use of the drug can cause delirium, amnesia, depression, and long-term memory and cognitive difficulties. Due to its dissociative effect, it is reportedly used as a date-rape drug.<sup>7</sup>

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1 Office of National Drug Control Policy, Street Terms: Drugs and the Drug Trade.

2 Drug Enforcement Administration, Club Drugs: An Update, September 2001.

3 National Institute on Drug Abuse, Community Drug Alert Bulletin: Club Drugs, December 1999.

4 Drug Enforcement Administration, Club Drugs: An Update, September 2001.

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.