

mephedrone 'bath salts'

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Street Names: Meow; Bubbles (seems to be a brand name for capsules containing it and methylone, another research chemical); **4-MethylMethCathinone** (methcathinone is another name for ephedrone); **4-MMC; 4-MMCAT; MCAT** ("MCAT" is a misnomer, but people use it anyway)

Agent Appearance: MDPV: Tan, white, or grey powder - **Mephedrone:** White, off-white yellowish powder or fine crystals; less frequently in tablet or capsule form; unpleasant odour

Route of administration: Oral (capsules, powder - often taken on an empty stomach), intravenous, intranasal, sublingual (beneath tongue), insufflation (by air into lungs), smoked, rectal, intravenous, intramuscular (into muscle)

Pharmacokinetics: Typical doses between 5 and 25 mg, drug onset: 60–90 min, duration of effect: 2.5 hours. Peak effect in about 30 min followed by a rapid withdrawal; typical doses of 25–75 mg, with 90 mg considered a high dose. Total dose reported by emergency room patients average 1.9 ± 2.0 g

Coppola and Mondola (2011); Dargan et al. (2011); Hill and Thomas (2011); Kriikku et al. (2011); Psychonaut (2009); and Schifano et al. (2011).

DRUG EFFECTS reported in the literature.

Cardiovascular - Hypertension, tachycardia, myocarditis, chest pain, diaphoresis (heavy sweating), hot flushes, shortness of breath, palpitations, cardiac arrest, S-T segment changes

Cognitive - Confusion, improved concentration, alertness, amnesia, cravings, long term cognitive impairment, empathy/feelings of closeness

Dermatologic - Unusual sweat odour, rash

ENT (Ear Nose Throat)- Sore nasal passages, mouth/throat pain, epistaxis (nose bleeds)

Gastrointestinal - Nausea/vomiting, anorexia, dry mouth, abdominal pain, sore mouth/throat

Metabolic - Hyponatremia (low blood salt), elevated creatinine (white crystal like compound found in blood)

Mood - Anxiety, panic, depression, irritability, amotivation, anhedonia, sexual arousal, sociability, euphoria

Musculoskeletal - Increase in muscle tone, trismus (spasms of the muscles)

Neurological - Tremors, insomnia, bruxism, headache, dizziness/light headedness, tinnitus, seizures, nystagmus (involuntary usually rapid movement of the eyeballs, as from side to side), mydriasis, blurred vision, numbness, blue/cold extremities, fever, paresthesias (a sensation of pricking, tingling, or creeping on the skin having no objective cause), motor automatisms, parkinsonism

Perceptual - Visual hallucinations, auditory hallucinations, paranoid delusions, intensification of sensory experiences, reduced consciousness

Psychomotor - Fatigue, agitation, aggression

Pulmonary - Dyspnea (difficult or laboured respiration)

Renal - Kidney/flank pain, rhabdomyolysis (the destruction or degeneration of skeletal muscle tissue), kidney damage

Taken from: Are "Bath Salts" the next generation of stimulant abuse? Gerald Scott Winder, MD a*, Nathan Stern, BAb, Avinash Hosanagar, MD a,c

http://ac.els-cdn.com/S0740547212000463/1-s2.0-S0740547212000463-main.pdf?_tid=e94f6fc4-2713-11e3-91aa-00000aabb0



what it can turn you into?

Miami 'zombie' attacker may have been using 'bath salts'

A naked man who chewed off the face of another man in what is being called a zombie-like attack may have been under the influence of "bath salts," a drug referred to as the new LSD, according to reports from CNN affiliates in Miami. The horrific attack occurred Saturday and was only stopped after a police officer shot the attacker several times, killing him.

Larry Vega witnessed the attack on Miami's MacArthur Causeway. He told CNN affiliate WSVN he saw one naked man chewing off the face of another naked man. "The guy was like tearing him to pieces with his mouth, so I told him, 'Get off!'" Vega told WSVN. "You know it's like the guy just kept eating the other guy away, like ripping his skin."

"It was just a blob of blood," WSVN quoted Vega as saying. "You couldn't really see, it was just blood all over the place." Vega said he flagged down a passing police officer.

"When the officer approached him, told him to stop, pointed a gun at him, he turned around and growled like a wild animal and kept eating at the man's face," Fraternal Order of Police President Armando Aguilar told CNN affiliate WPLG. Aguilar said he suspects the attacker, identified as 31-year-old Rudy Eugene, was under the influence of "bath salts." Four other drug use instances in Miami-Dade bear resemblances to Saturday's attack, he told WPLG. "It causes them to go completely insane and become very violent" and take off their clothes, Aguilar told WPLG.

Dr. Paul Adams, an emergency room physician at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, told CNN affiliate WBFS that the drug makes users delirious. They exhibit elevated temperatures and extreme physical strength, Adams said. "I took care of a 150 pound individual who you would have thought he was 250 pounds," WBFS quoted Adams as saying. "It took six security officers to restrain the individual." Adams said users have been known to use their jaws as weapons, according to WBFS.

According to a 2011 report from the National Institute of Drug Abuse, bath salts contain amphetamine-like chemicals. "Doctors and clinicians at U.S. poison centers have indicated that ingesting or snorting 'bath salts' containing synthetic stimulants can cause chest pains, increased blood pressure, increased heart rate, agitation, hallucinations, extreme paranoia, and delusions," according to the NIDA report.

In October, the Drug Enforcement Administration made possession of the stimulants in bath salts, Mephedrone, 3,4 methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) and Methyline, illegal under an emergency order. The order lasts for a year with a possible six-month extension. The stimulants have been placed under restrictions or banned in 37 states, according to a DEA press release.

The victim of Saturday's attack, whom police have not identified, was in critical condition at Jackson Memorial on Monday, according to the WPLG report. Aguilar told WPLG that 75% to 80% of his face was missing. Eugene had an arrest record, mostly misdemeanors, including a battery charge from when he was 16 that was later dropped, according to the Miami Herald. He had been married but divorced in 2007, WPLG reported. His former wife told the station that Eugene had been violent toward her. Homeless people near where the attack took place said Eugene was often seen around the area looking confused, according to WPLG.

<http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2012/05/29/reports-miami-zombie-attacker-may-have-been-using-bath-salts/> (cited 4/6/12)