



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Distribution

DANGEROUS DRUG ALERT

Date: 2012-01-27

Yellowknife, NWT

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police wishes to advise the public in the Northwest Territories of an extremely dangerous, and illegal, drug that has been found to be responsible for 6 and possibly an additional 4 deaths in Alberta in the last month.

Ecstasy has also been linked to at least 18 deaths in British Columbia in the last 6 months and if linked to the death of a 16 year old in January 2012, would bring that total to 19.

The drug is **3-4 methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDMA)** or more commonly known as Ecstasy or "E". Laboratory analysis has also found the drug to contain **paramethoxymethamphetamine (PMMA)** which is another form of Ecstasy.

The delayed onset of the effects of this Ecstasy derivative may cause users to ingest additional doses of the drug, thus compounding the dangerous affects of the drug.

Use of MDMA, PMMA or their derivatives can lead to characteristic symptoms such as:

- Pronounced Hyperthermia (not to be confused with Hypothermia)
- Tachycardia
- Hypertension
- Agitation
- Confusion
- Convulsions

An overdose of this extremely dangerous drug can result in Cerebral Hemorrhage. As reported in Alberta and British Columbia, use of this illegal drug and its derivatives can cause death.

Ecstasy is usually in a tablet form. However, it is also known to be distributed in a powder form as well as a capsule. Please below for examples of these forms.



Figure 1 – Tablet Form



Figure 2 – Powder Form



Figure 3 – Capsule

No examples of the Ecstasy derivative responsible for the deaths in Alberta have yet been reported in the NWT. However, Ecstasy is known to be used in the NWT and this dangerous derivative may find its way into the North.

Use of any form of Ecstasy is extremely dangerous and illegal. The appearance of Ecstasy tablets are deliberately made to entice their consumption, and as such pose an even greater danger to innocent persons.

Should you or anybody who has ingested this drug, exhibit any of the above symptoms you are urged to seek immediate medical attention.

Should you find suspected forms of this drug, immediately call your local Detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Do not handle this drug with your bare hands.

For more information, please contact:

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