



# K2-Spice Awareness

ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING



## OVERVIEW:

K2 and Spice are drug trade names for synthetic cannabinoid which imitates THC, the psychoactive ingredient found in marijuana. K2-Spice is considered to be a “man-made mind-altering” chemical and can be sprayed on dried, shredded plant materials. Since K2-Spice can easily be mistaken for herbal incense or potpourri, typically sold in small, silvery plastic bags of dried leaves and marketed as incense that can be smoked, it is important to be aware of this drug.

The process of formulating K2-Spice starts from bulk powder that is then dissolved into solvents (acetone) before being applied to dry plant materials to make herbal incense products. After applying the drug to the products, it is then packaged for distribution. Smoking is done from a pipe, water pipe, or simply as rolling drug-laced plant material in cigarette papers. Overdose deaths have been attributed to the abuse of synthetic cannabinoids, including death by heart attack. The Center for Disease Control has reported several patients having smoked synthetic cannabinoids, which caused acute kidney injury or damage, requiring hospitalization and dialysis.

## EFFECT ON THE MIND AND BODY:

Acute psychotic episodes, dependence, and withdrawal are associated with use of these synthetic cannabinoids. Some individuals have suffered from intense hallucinations. While other effects include severe agitation, disorganized thoughts, paranoid delusions, and violence after smoking products laced with these substances.

State public health and poison centers have issued warnings in response to adverse health effects associated with abuse of herbal incense products containing these synthetic cannabinoids. These adverse effects included tachycardia (elevated heart rate), elevated blood pressure, unconsciousness, tremors, seizures, vomiting,



## STREET NAMES:

Bilss, Blaze,  
Black Mamba,  
Bombay Blue,  
Fake Weed,  
Genie, Zohai,  
RedX Dawn,  
Paradise, Demon,  
Black Magic, Mr.  
Nice Guy, Ninja,  
Dream, Sence,  
Smoke, Skunk,  
Serenity, Yuca-  
tan, Fire, and  
Crazy Clown.

## SOURCES:

[WWW.DEA.GOV](http://WWW.DEA.GOV)

[WWW.DRUGABUSE.GOV](http://WWW.DRUGABUSE.GOV)

## HOW INMATES OBTAIN K2-SPICE:

Spice can easily be hidden in the form of incense; therefore, be aware of inmates that practice specialized religions as their practice may require burning incense. In addition, K2-Spice can be hidden in incoming mail from family and friends.