

Emerging Drug Trends

The types of substances accessible to youth are constantly changing. New substances such as Kratom and 7-OH are on the rise and create strong dependence. This document will walk through these two new substances and the risks they pose to our children, students, friends, and families.

Kratom:



Kratom is a substance derived from the mitragynine plant that is marketed as an herbal supplement. In low doses, Kratom acts like methamphetamine, and in high doses, it acts like heroin.

Marketed as a supplement that boosts energy and metabolism, Kratom can commonly be found in vape shops, gas stations, and convenience stores. There is very little regulation when selling or purchasing Kratom; currently, the only regulation is that individuals must be 21 years or older to purchase it.

7-OH:

7-OH or 7-Hydroxymitragynine is a synthetic derivative of Kratom. This substance takes mitragynine and synthetically concentrates and enhances its effects. 7-OH is a powerful drug that is 13x more potent than morphine.

Currently, 7-OH is available in a variety of forms, from ice cream cones to liquids to pills. These substances are often made in desirable flavors such as blue raspberry, fruit punch and watermelon. As with Kratom, lack of regulation increases the risk that youth will develop dependence on low-cost, potent drugs like 7-OH.



