

# ALERT!



**O**NE DESIGNER drug that has been in the news recently is 2C-E (2,5-dimethoxy-4-ethylphenethylamine). 2C-E is a psychedelic drug belonging to the 2C drug family. “2C” is a general name for a family of synthetic psychedelic drugs, most of which were first synthesized back in the 1970s and 1980s by the American pharmacologist, chemist, and drug developer, Alexander Shulgin. Drugs in the 2C family (which, among others, include 2C-B, 2C-C, and 2C-I) are chemically similar and related to each other. However, each drug in the 2C family has different effects on the user.

2C-E is a hallucinogen, and it often goes by the street name “Europa”. It is typically a crystalline powder that is white in appearance. 2C-E can be ingested, taken sublingually (under the tongue), insufflated (snorted, etc), or injected intravenously.

It is currently legal to buy 2C-E in the United States, although the sale, purchase, or use of the drug could be prosecuted under certain Federal laws. At this time there is no approved medical use.

2C-E is a relatively uncommon, infrequently used substance with a short history of existence compared

to other drugs. Little is known about the long-term effects of 2C-E use. It is possible that lasting negative effects could be produced by any dose. Variations in quality, potency, and content make use of 2C-E very risky and potentially fatal.

The effect of 2C-E generally lasts 8–12 hours. Users have reported experiences with the drug ranging from pleasant to highly unpleasant. Physical effects include: sweating, itching, nausea, chills (or other feelings of being cold), vomiting, “profound” physical discomfort, muscle tension, diarrhea, and—at times—rushes of euphoria. There may also be a sense of pressure or swelling in the torso and head and tightness in the jaw. Trembling of the hands and body may also occur.

Physical effects of the drug tend to lessen during the latter half of the trip, but they can be serious enough to require hospitalization—and in at least one known case 2C-E has been a contributing factor in a fatality.

Psychological effects can be very pronounced and may be accompanied by feelings of deep fear and anxiety. 2C-E users often experience dramatic distortions in their perception of the passage of time. Sound

distortion is also common, and it is not unusual for users to hear voices, echoes, drilling, scraping, or other sounds disconnected from their environment.

2C-E causes the user to hallucinate. Some users of 2C-E at higher doses have compared its open-eye visual hallucinations with those produced by peyote or LSD.

While 2C-E has been around for over 25 years, its use (as well as the use of other drugs in the 2C family) is relatively uncommon compared to other more “mainstream” drugs. Some attempts have been made to outlaw the 2C drugs. 2C-B, for example, is illegal in the United States and other countries. But in many areas—including the U.S.—2C-E has not yet been fully outlawed. The legality of 2C-E may be in the process of changing, however, as recent 2C-E overdoses and a death bring new attention to the drug. ☹

## REFERENCES

<http://www.drugs-forum.com/forum/show-wiki.php?title=2C-E>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2C-E>

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