

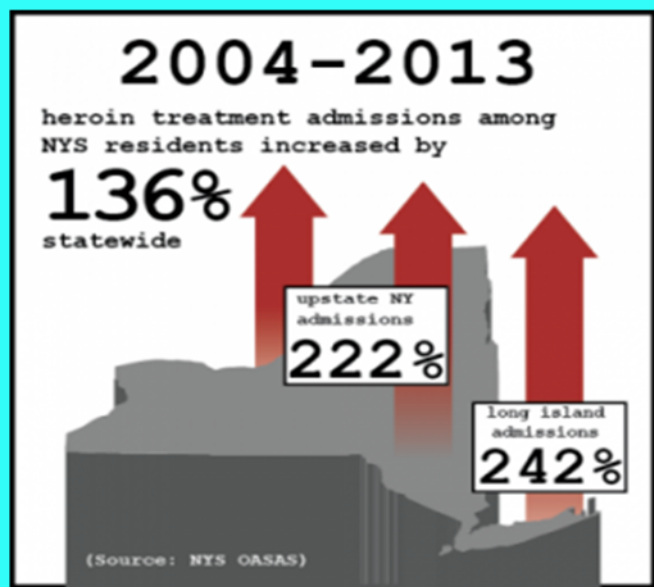
Heroin

A.K.A—Smack, Horse, Brown Sugar, Dope, H, Junk, Skag, Skunk, White Horse, China White, Hell Dust...



What is it?

Heroin is an opiate that is produced from morphine, a naturally occurring substance that comes from the seedpod of poppy plants. All opiate abuse, including heroin, carries a strong risk of addiction and physical dependence. Heroin is abused by injecting, snorting or smoking. All three can cause the same level of addiction, as well as serious health problems.



EFFECTS OF HEROIN

- Slowed breathing
- Sedation; drowsiness
- Clouded mental functioning
- Nausea and vomiting
- Depression
- Hypothermia
- Deterioration of Teeth
- Inflammation of the gums
- Cold sweats
- Itching
- Respiratory (breathing) illnesses
- Muscular weakness, partial paralysis
- Loss of memory and intellectual performance
- Pustules on the face
- Weakening of the immune system
- Coma or death (due to overdose)



**Herkimer County
Prevention Council**

(315) 894-9917

**www.herkimercountyprevention.org
or www.combatheroin.ny.gov**

Nearly half of young people who inject heroin report abusing prescription pain killers before starting to use heroin



(Source: National Institute of Drug and Alcohol)