



Ketamine is an anesthetic commonly used in veterinary practice to subdue animals for procedures or surgery. Due to its euphoric effects, the drug has since been used as a recreational substance. Since the drug can cause numbing and sleep-inducing effects, it is often utilized by individuals who intend to self-medicate underlying conditions of addiction like mental illness or trauma. But, Ketamine is addictive and prolonged use can cause the cycle of addiction to ensue along with its inevitable consequences. Ketamine addiction treatment is effective for individuals who are serious about living a life in recovery. Ketamine is usually sold on the street in either powder, liquid, or pill form. Street names for Ketamine include K, vitamin K, special K, and cat valium. Although with regular use this substance can induce addiction, the drug is usually found amongst party the party scene.



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Effects of Ketamine Addiction

Since Ketamine's use is an anesthetic, its effects are on the central nervous system. As a result, users experience a reduction of motor functionality. They may also exhibit challenges in walking, speaking, and/or staying awake. The effects of Ketamine addiction may include:

Severe mood swings

Audio and visual hallucinations

Confusion

Impaired cognitive function

Nausea

Difficulty retaining memory or information

Dissociation with the body

Anxiety and depression

Paranoia

Disturbed breathing



Negative Effects of Abusing Ketamine

Because Ketamine is an anesthetic, it can reduce symptoms of pain. This means that while high on Ketamine, individuals may develop injuries and not even know it. Without symptoms of pain, we don't know when we need treatment for an injury, infection, or illness. Another problem with Ketamine abuse is the damage to organs of the body with long-term use. Ketamine Bladder Syndrome is a developed condition in which an individual suffers urinary and kidney damage as a result of consuming Ketamine. Effects of this condition include bleeding, pain, and a lack of bladder control. Furthermore, the abuse of Ketamine can lead to a loss of healthy judgment, because many dealers mix it with a dangerous concoction of other drugs. This, unfortunately, leads to overdose which may and do result in death. Lastly, because the drug is a hallucinogen, many individuals may try the substance thinking it will simply produce psychedelic effects and not lead to addiction. This is false, as Ketamine has

addictive properties and individuals can and do become dependent and addicted to it.



Struggling with an Addiction to Ketamine

With normal medical use, addiction to Ketamine is unlikely. But, with consistent use, users of Ketamine will start to recognize cravings for the drug. Most users of the drug are teenagers and young adults who utilize the substance for recreational purposes. Additionally, people who use other drugs are at a higher risk to use and abuse Ketamine and become addicted. Once cravings for Ketamine begin, individuals may start to display addictive behaviors like seeking the drug even if it is dangerous to do so. Also, addicted individuals will start to experience withdrawal symptoms when they discontinue use which may include:

Sped up heartbeat

Seeing double

Increased and restricted breathing

Inability to move functionally

Imbalance

Loss of hearing



Treatment for Ketamine Addiction

Fortunately, Ketamine treatment is effective if the addicted individual is willing to commit to

recovery. Through innovative services and programs, **The Wellness Retreat Recovery** can help you or your loved one addicted to Ketamine live a life free from addiction. It isn't easy, but we will be with you every step of the way to achieve your goals and become the person that you want to be! Are you or a loved one addicted to Ketamine? Give us a call today at 888-821-0238.