

# Drug Awareness

## ***What is a drug?***

- A chemical substance that affects the processes of the mind or body
- Any chemical compound used in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease or other abnormal condition
- A substance used recreationally for its effects on the central nervous system, such as a narcotic

## ***What is an illicit drug?***

An illicit drug is a substance that alters the mind in a psychoactive way but is illegal in the eyes of the law and punishable with criminal justice. Examples include:

- Cannabis
- Cocaine
- Heroin
- Benzodiazepines
- Ecstasy
- Methamphetamine

## ***Risks in the workplace:***

Alcohol and/or drug usage becomes an occupational health and safety issue if a worker's ability to exercise judgment, coordination, motor control, concentration and alertness at the workplace is impaired, leading to increased risk of injury and incidents to themselves or others.

## ***Warning signs!***

- 'Near miss' incidents
- Violence
- Habitual lateness
- Frequent absences
- Neglect of personal grooming
- Interpersonal problems
- Employee experiencing poor coordination, poor concentration and/or visual disturbances

## ***For help:***

Contact the Alcohol and Drug Information Service.

Tel: (08) 9442 5000.

24 hours a day.



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