



Westchester Intelligence Center

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SPICE CANNABINOIDS: K2

OVERVIEW

Legal alternatives to marijuana are becoming increasingly popular with youth populations across the country and county. Loosely known as “legal bud,” these herbal combinations include salvia divinorum and K2. Law enforcement and legislative officials are taking note and have begun steps that will lead to the prohibition of some of these “legal buds.”



CONSUMPTION

K2 is a combination of chemicals and herbs that is marketed as incense. Its two synthetic cannabinoids, JWH-018 and JWH-073, mimic the brain's reaction to marijuana. Users report highs that last between 30 minutes and two hours, and at times describe out-of-body experiences. K2 is widely available for purchase online and in smoke shops. Online blogs about the subject indicate that K2 samples are being shipped with salvia orders, although packaging indicates that it is not intended for consumption. JWH-018 and JWH-073 were developed in the 1990's and tested only on mice. No extensive testing has been done to determine the effects on humans.

LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS

The DEA's Office of Diversion Control has classified these "Spice Cannabinoids" as drugs and chemicals of concern. While K2 is not currently banned in any state or county, that is expected to change shortly. Both chambers of the Kansas Legislature have recently passed bills that classify multiple synthetic cannabinoids, including those that make up K2, as Schedule I drugs.

U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration
Office of Diversion Control
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Drugs and Chemicals of Concern

Spice Cannabinoid

- **CP 47,497 and homologues**
2-[(1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]-5-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)phenol
- **HU-210**
[(6aR,10aR)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-8,6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-ol]
- **HU-211**
(dexanabinol, (6aS,10aS)-9-(hydroxymethyl)-8,6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydrobenzo[c]chromen-1-ol)
- **JWH-018**
1-Pentyl-3-(1-naphthyl)indole
- **JWH-073**
1-Butyl-3-(1-naphthyl)indole

* All data was gathered from the DEA, news articles, and websites dedicated to marijuana and its legal alternatives