



LINCOLN Medical Education Partnership
Strengthening Families through Health Education

A NEW CONCERN: K-2 May 2010



K-2 is a legal, smokable, herbal mixture with chemical properties similar to THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. It is available for purchase on the Internet and in stores. According to law enforcement officials in Lawrence, Kansas, it is the same type of thing as marijuana, but synthetic. They stated that it looks like potpourri and sells for about \$10 per gram. The substance doesn't show up on a drug test, which makes it an attractive alternative to marijuana. It comes in a variety of flavors and potencies.

Using the Internet, it appears there are many different types of K-2, and legends about its use. The following represent some of the information floating around out there from regional news sources.

- It is sold as incense.
- It cannot be sold in Kansas or Missouri.
- It is an incense that contains warnings of not being for human consumption.
- The herbal mixture is sprayed with a synthetic THC.
- In the mid 1990's, Clemson University researchers developed synthetic cannabinoids to test on mice. The professor says, "I emphasize that this compound was not designed to be a super-THC. It should absolutely not be used as a recreational drug."
- Other names for K-2 are: "Spice," "Genie," "Fake pot," "Blayze II," "Red Bird," "Black Magic," "Orange Krush," "Jamaican Gold," "Honey Blond," "Bubblegum," "Blueberry," and "Zohai."
- Costs range from \$10 per gram to \$20 and \$50 for three grams.
- K-2 is not tobacco and not regulated by tobacco laws.
- The military has banned possession of K-2.
- One user reports that the high achieved with K-2 is shorter than that of marijuana.
- No data is available on the substance's toxicity or how long it stays in the body.
- Flavors include: "blonde," "pink," "citron," and "summit."
- Lincoln Police have had contact with individuals under the influence of K-2.

