

Rohypnol

Roofies, the "Date Rape Drug", Rophies, Roach, Rope, R2, Mexican Valium

What is rohypnol?

Rohypnol (the trade name for flunitrazepam) is a tranquilliser which has recently been called by the media a 'date rape' drug.

Rohypnol is a legitimate drug used in the short-term treatment of sleep disorders, producing sedative-hypnotic effects including muscle relaxation and amnesia. It is alleged that some men have slipped the drug into the drinks of young women who either then pass out or experience short-term memory loss and are then vulnerable to sexual exploitation and rape.



It has been implicated in several date rape cases in the US, although there is no confirmed case of it being used in sexual assault cases in the UK.

Recently companies have started to sell products which will test for the Benzodiazepine group of drugs, which are commonly associated with Drug Rape. These usually take the form of test strips or beer mats, which can be easily carried on a night out for discrete testing. They can also detect benzodiazepines in urine, and can be used as a 'morning after' test.

Law

Rohypnol is a class C drug. It can be obtained only through private prescription in the UK. It is not illegal to possess the drug if it has been obtained through prescription. Supply without authority is illegal and Class C penalties apply (maximum 14 years imprisonment and/or fine).

Effects/risks

Rohypnol use causes dependence in humans. Once dependence has developed, abstinence induces withdrawal symptoms, including headache, muscle pain, extreme anxiety, tension, restlessness, confusion, and irritability. Numbness, tingling of the extremities, loss of identity, hallucinations, delirium, convulsions, shock, and cardiovascular collapse also may occur. Withdrawal seizures can occur a week or more after cessation of use. As with other benzodiazepines, treatment for flunitrazepam dependence must be gradual, with use tapering off.

Updated February 2004

Other Sources of information		
<p>Local organisations that offer Assessment & Treatment options for people with addictions:</p> <p>SMART- Substance Misuse Assessment & Referral Team Poole - 01202 735777</p> <p>BAT – Bournemouth Assessment Team 01202 294888</p> <p>YADAS – Tel 01202 741414 www.edasuk.org/which-area-do-you-live-in/poole/poole-yadas/</p> <p>ShADOWS – Tel 01258 488486 www.edasuk.org/which-area-do-you-live-in/dorset/shadows/</p> <p>ADDACTION – Tel; 01202 558855 www.addaction.org.uk</p> <p>SPS - Specialist Prevention Service Tel: 01305 228200 www.dorsetforyou.com/specialistprevention</p>	<p>Local organisations who offer treatment, advice, information & support for people with addictions:</p> <p>PACT (Poole Addictions Community Team) Tel:01202 633875</p> <p>Steven James Project Tel: 01202 740044 - www.sjcounselling.co.uk</p> <p>Tom Smith Counselling Tel: 07738 380146 email:tom@tiscounselling.co.uk</p> <p>EDP –Tel: 01392 666710- email info@edp.org.uk</p> <p>CADAS - Community Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service Tel:01305 265635 www.dorset.nhs.uk/localservices/alcohol-and-drugs.htm</p> <p>CRI –Tel:01202 203101 - www.cri.org.uk/bit_bournemouth</p> <p>SHARP – Tel:08451234130 www.actiononaddiction.org.uk/treatment/sharp_bournemouth/</p> <p>YADAS – Tel 01202 741414 www.edasuk.org/which-area-do-you-live-in/poole/poole-yadas/</p> <p>ShADOWS – Tel 01258 488486 www.edasuk.org/which-area-do-you-live-in/dorset/shadows/</p> <p>ADDACTION – Tel; 01202 558855 www.addaction.org.uk</p> <p>SPS - Tel: 01305 228200 www.dorsetforyou.com/specialistprevention</p>	<p>National organisations that offer treatment, advice, information & support for people with addictions:</p> <p>Alcohol Concern Tel: 020 7264 0510 www.alcoholconcern.org.uk</p> <p>FRANK-0800 77 66 00 www.talktofrank.com</p> <p>NTA – Tel:020 79721999 www.nta.nhs.uk/</p>

Contact us: Help lines 01202 733322/311600 (Weekdays 8.30am to 4.30pm, 24-hour answer phone)

Email: admin@edasuk.org

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Statement

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ID:ED-DS-19112011v2

Literature search completed: Drugscope- October 2012

Sheet published: October 2012

Review Date: October 2013

