

KNOW IT GHB is short for gammahydroxybutyrate. It is also known as 4-hydroxybutyrate, sodium oxybate, liquid ecstasy, GHB.

GHB comes as a colourless liquid, sold in small bottles or as a powder in capsules.

GHB has no smell, but a salty taste.

The liquid is measured out in capfuls and swallowed.

GHB has been used in medicine by anaesthetists.

THE LAW GHB is a prescription-only medicine.

Possession of GHB without a prescription is not illegal

Supply (selling or giving it to another person) is against the law and Class C penalties may apply.

The maximum penalty for supply of a Class C drug is 5 years' prison and/or a fine.

Manufacture and supply is an offence under the Medicines Act.

A drug record can cause serious problems at home and school and could affect job prospects.

If you have a drugs record, it can be difficult to get a visa to travel to some countries.

The information given here is general. If specific legal advice is required, please consult a solicitor.

EFFECTS GHB has sedative properties and can produce feelings of euphoria.

At low doses GHB has a relaxing effect on the user. At higher doses

GHB can lead to drowsiness, sickness, fits or unconsciousness.

There is only a very small difference between the dose which produces pleasant sensations and the dose which causes unconsciousness. The effects have been known to last for a day.

RISKS

GHB can be VERY DANGEROUS and even FATAL if mixed with other drugs, particularly alcohol.

The amount of GHB in a liquid can vary, so users won't know how strong it is. Even a small overdose can cause unconsciousness and users can be unrouseable for 4-5 hours.

If incorrectly produced, GHB can badly burn the mouth.

Users have reported nausea and vomiting.

The long-term effects of GHB are not yet fully known.

Some users find it difficult to stop taking GHB.