



To: All Washington State Emergency Departments
From: William T. Hurley, MD, FACEP
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Subject: **øBath Saltø Abuse Update**

The Washington Poison Center has seen many cases of patients getting high on "bath salts" or MDPV (3,4-methylenedioxypyrovalerone). This is expected to produce effects similar to the hallucinogenic-amphetamines, but presently experience is limited. Most are packaged in powdered form and labeled not for human consumption. Some products are marketed as plant food, plant growth stimulator, and even insect repellent. It's being sold in convenience stores, gas stations, and on the Internet. Prices range from \$25 to over \$60. øBath Saltsø are also known as MTV, MDPK, Magic, Super Coke, Peevee, Cloud 9, Ivory Wave, Ocean, Charge Plus, White Lightning, Scarface, Hurricane Charlie, Red Dove and White Dove.

MDPV is a stimulant drug that acts as a norepinephrine and dopamine re-uptake inhibitor. It has no history of medical use and is sold as a -designer drugø or -research chemicalø (RC) for recreational use. It has been compared to methylphenidate at low doses and cocaine at higher doses. MDPV has also been associated with aphrodisiac effects in some patients. MDPV is not detected via standard drug tests.

Since December 2, 2011 substituted cathinones, and synthetic cannabinoids, have been added to Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. The rules give clear authority to law enforcement to prosecute for the distribution, manufacture, sale, and possession of these substances. It alerts the public to the potential health risks that could result from using them. MDPV is also a controlled substance in the United Kingdom, Finland, Denmark and Sweden.

Clinical Effects: Elevated creatinine, extreme paranoia, hallucinations/delusions, tachycardia, agitation, hypertension, chest pain, headache, and suicidal thoughts. Several have remained symptomatic for 2-3 days before symptoms abated. Many patients report that it causes cravings for more and several have binged for 2-3 days. Police report violent encounters with those high on MDPV.

Route of exposure is most often snorting or ingestion, but can be used IV or rectally.

Treatment: Consists of supportive care, including: IV fluids, benzodiazepines as needed for agitation, and monitoring for hyperthermia, seizures, and rhabdomyolysis.

MDPV Duration	Insufflated	Ingested
Total Duration	2.0 - 3.5 hrs	2.0 - 7.0 hrs
Onset	5 - 20 mins	15 - 30 mins
Coming Up	15 - 30 mins	30 - 60 mins
Plateau	30 ó 120 mins	30 - 180 mins
Coming Down	30 - 60 mins	30 - 120 mins
After Effects	2 - 48 hours	2 - 48 hours

If you have questions about this topic or any suspected poisoning case in your area, please contact the Washington Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222. We have nurses, pharmacists, poison specialists, & Medical Toxicologists available 24/7.

William Hurley MD