Spice/K2
(AKA Synthetic Marijuana, a Misnomer-NOT Marijuana)

A spice/K2 Package

What is Spice/K2?
-Spice is a drug sold in headshops, gas stations, and online, supposedly as an “aroma mixture” or potpourri not for human consumption.
-Inside spice packages are synthesized (artificially made) substances that produce a high relatable to that of marijuana, but with certain differences.
-“Spice” is actually a huge array of different drugs, the majority of which are untested on humans. Users often do not know which spice drug they are using.

How Does Spice Work as a Drug?
-Users take out the contents of spice packages, and will either smoke the drug, inhale its fumes, or infuse it in drinks.
-Certain compounds in Spice act on your brain's natural cannabinoid system to create feelings of wellbeing, sedation, and altered perception.

Effects:
- Typical short term (can vary): “high,” sedation, paranoia, decreased anxiety, decreased pain, sense of well being, hallucinations, impaired thinking.
- Possible short term/”overdose”: fast heart rate (tachycardia), irregular heart rate (arrhythmia), slow heart rate (bradycardia), loss of blood to the heart muscle (myocardial ischemia), heart attacks, in rare cases death.
- Long term: heavy chronic users may experience addiction and withdrawal. Withdrawal does not appear to be fatal. Other possibilities include increased risk for schizophrenia, impaired function of certain parts of the brain.

Is Spice More Dangerous than Marijuana/Dangerous in General?
YES!
-Spice/K2 is NOT marijuana, and has inherent risks that exceed marijuana’s risks. Some of these are shown above in “possible short term.”
- Deaths have been reported. Danger is especially high for those who have heart conditions (e.g. arrhythmia, cardiovascular disease, and more)
- When spice products are sold as “aroma packages,” their drug-like ingredients are not monitored or even known by retailers. For this reason, there are often dangerous impurities or inconsistent contents in the packaging.
- The vast majority of spice products are not tested on humans, so no one knows the extent of danger of all of them.

For more information:
Visit:
http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/spice-synthetic-marijuana

^(The above URL has no spaces in it)