



Poison HOTLINE

1-800-222-1222

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Did you know

Dabs, wax, butane hash oil (BHO) or 710 – “OIL” rotated upside down – are terms for marijuana concentrates. These highly concentrated forms of tetrahydrocannabinol [THC] are very trendy now, but they are **not** the same as *synthetic* THC homologs such as K2 or Spice.

Marijuana wax or dab is a sticky, yellow or honey-like substance derived from the marijuana plant but has several times the concentration of THC compared to the original plant material. The high potency can lead to severe hallucinogenic effects.

These THC concentrates can be smoked in bong, hookahs, vape pens and e-cigarettes. Heating the concentrate in an e-cigarette or vape pen can make the vapors odorless and smokeless, thus easy to conceal.

Tianeptine

Tianeptine, sold under brand names of Coaxil and Stablon, is an atypical tricyclic antidepressant drug used in Europe, Asia and Latin America. Tianeptine is used mainly for the treatment of major depressive disorders, but has also been used to treat anxiety, asthma and irritable bowel syndrome. The drug is *not* approved by the FDA in the United States, but is being easily obtained by ordering it on the internet.

There has been an increase in tianeptine exposure calls to poison centers in the United States from 2014-2017. Most exposures were in people between the ages of 21-40 years old. The majority of calls came from health care providers in the southern states.

Tianeptine, an opioid receptor agonist, is abused due to the opioid-like effects that it can produce. Clinical effects mostly commonly reported were neurologic (agitation), cardiovascular (tachycardia) and gastrointestinal (nausea). Therapies most commonly provided include IV fluids, benzodiazepines and oxygen. Naloxone was an effective therapy. Drug testing for tianeptine is not routinely available, but specialty-testing laboratories might have the capacity.

Withdrawal symptoms can also be seen in people chronically using tianeptine. Signs and symptoms were agitation, nausea, vomiting, tachycardia, hypertension, diarrhea, tremors and diaphoresis. Benzodiazepines are the most frequently administered therapies, followed by IV fluids and antiemetics. Neonatal abstinence syndrome has occurred after tianeptine dependence during pregnancy. The abstinence effects are much like those of opioid withdrawal.

Recently in the U.S., two deaths have been attributed to tianeptine toxicity. The drugs were purchased online. In April of 2018, Michigan became the first US state to ban tianeptine, classifying it as a Schedule II controlled substance.

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