

# Oshkosh Health Services

215 Church Ave.  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

## Synthetic Marijuana Fact Sheet / K-2

K2, also known as; Fake Marijuana, Spice, Black Magic, Genie, Yucatan Fire, Red X Dawn, incense or potpourri.

K-2 is a mixture of herbs and spices sprayed with a synthetic chemical compound similar to THC (the active ingredient in marijuana). The synthetic chemical compounds are psychotropic drugs invented by Dr. John W. Huffman known as JWH-018 or JWH-073 or HU-210 and are toxic. Dr. Huffman conducted medical research on the effects of cannabinoids on the brain. The synthetic drugs bind more tightly to the cells' cannabinoid receptors than THC and is 10 times more active than THC, so it requires less of the drug to get high. K-2 is usually smoked but can be mixed with food or drink. It has been commonly sold in head shops, tobacco shops and convenience stores for about \$45.00 for 3 grams.



K-2 creates a distinct high, very euphoric and is sold as a natural high, so teens think it is harmless.

Symptoms of use are:

- Hallucinations / paranoia / panic attacks
- Severe agitation / aggressive behavior
- Vomiting
- Elevated heart rate
- Elevated blood pressure
- Tremors and seizures
- Anxiety
- Numbness and tingling
- K-2 does not show up on drug tests

K-2 is dangerous and addictive. Most often K-2 is used by 14-27 yr. olds, prisoners or probationers and the military (has been banned by military).

Sources: National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse, [www.nida.nih.gov](http://www.nida.nih.gov),