

SEXUAL ASSAULT & DRUG MISUSE: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Recently, there have been an increased number of reports from individuals who have been sexually assaulted after having drugs slipped into their drinks. Some of the drugs misused for the purpose of sexual assault can cause victims to become sedated, lose consciousness and have memory loss.

“Sexual assault is *any* unwanted act of a sexual nature imposed by one person upon another”. “Sexual assault of any kind is a crime, even in a marriage or a dating relationship.” (*Sexual Assault: What It Means, Ontario Women’s Directorate, 1992*)

It is important to recognize that any substance may be misused on women or men for the purpose of sexually assaulting them, including, alcohol and illegal substances such as ecstasy.

What are rape drugs?

Alcohol continues to be the most easily accessible sedating substance and the substance most frequently associated with sexual assault.

Some of the illegal drugs misused for the purpose of sexual assault include:

Rohypnol (Street Names: Roofies, Roachies, LaRocha, Forget Pill, Rope, Robinal, Mexican Valium, R-2, Rib, and Whiteys)

GHB (Street Names: Liquid E, Liquid G, Easy Lay, Gook, Grievous Bodily Harm, Liquid X, Cherry Meth, G-riffick, Gib, Somatomax)

Ketamine (Street Names: Special K, Kit Kat, Ketaset)

How do I protect myself from rape drugs?

Protect Against Drugs Being Slipped Into Your Drink

1. Avoid alcohol or limit your alcohol consumption.
2. Watch your drinks at all times and keep your drink with you.
3. Don’t take drinks from anyone, get your own drinks, and open your own drinks.
4. Stay with your friends. Tell people where you’re going and when you expect to be home.
5. Know the signs and symptoms associated with alcohol and sexual assault drugs;
 - Dizziness
 - Drowsiness
 - Confusion
6. If you or your friends experience dizziness, confusion, or drowsiness call someone you trust or go directly to the hospital.

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