Keeping It SAFE: Indicators of Alcohol and Drug Use

Look at the eyes!

Are they clear and bright like they should be? Are the whites, white? Are the pupils of normal size? Are they glassy?

What do you hear?

Slurred speech, admission of drinking, inconsistent responses, unusual statements, abusive language, anything else?

What do you smell?

Alcoholic beverage, "cover up" odors like lots of mouth wash, breath mints, cologne, incense? Other unusual odors? Anything else?

What do you see?

Angry, unusual reaction, can't follow directions, can't open the door, hangs out the windows, "climbs" out of the car, leans against the car, keeps hand on the car, unsteady on feet, fumbles with keys, purse, or backpack? Slow reactions, signs of sickness, Anything else?

Cannibus (Marijuana) Impairment:

Odor of marijuana, impaired perception of time and distance, marked reddening of whites of eyes, body tremors, disorientation, impaired attention, relaxed inhibitions, "munchies" eyelid tremors

Narcotic Analgesic Impairment:

Pin point pupils, on the nod, drowsiness, low raspy voice, facial itching

Inhalant Impairment:

Odor of the inhaled substance, dizziness, numbness, possible traces of the substance around the face and nose, bloodshot, watery eyes, distorted perception of time and distance, confused, disoriented, drunk like appearance

Ecstacy Impairment:

Drinking lots of water, touchy feely with others, up close and personal with the music speakers, wearing dust mask with Vick's vapor rub pacifiers or chewing on a straw or lollipop, underwear off, listening to light and seeing sound

PCP Impairment:

Blank stare, loss of memory, perspiring heavily, warm to touch, incomplete or slurred verbal responses, cyclic behavior, agitated, rigid muscle tone, disoriented, non-responsive, chemical odor

Paraphernalia to look for:

Electronic cigarettes, incense packages, wax containers, rolling papers, blunt cigars, pipes, cough syrup containers, pill bottles

Keeping it SAFE Coalition: Under 21 Alcohol Prevention: 240-777-6652
Montgomery County Dept. of Police: Alcohol Initiatives Section: 240-773-6600
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