

Myths

“It’s the same as drinking a lot of coffee.”

- » Adderall is made up of dextroamphetamine saccharate, amphetamine aspartate monohydrate, dextroamphetamine sulfate USP, and amphetamine sulfate USP. These increase levels of the neurotransmitters: *dopamine, norepinephrine and serotonin.*

“I have trouble focusing, I daydream, I get bored easily, I have low reading comprehension - I probably have ADHD. So I’m just taking what I need.”

- » Under their doctor’s care, these drugs can help a person function and cope better with their symptoms. But you are not a doctor.
- » ADHD is more than just an occasional inability to concentrate.
- » If you think you have ADHD, consider getting tested by a professional.

“Adderall is prescribed and regulated by medical experts, so it must be safe.”

- » Adderall is a Schedule II drug, meaning it has accepted medical use for treatment but it has a high potential for abuse, and abuse of the drug can lead to psychological or physical addiction.
- » Just because a drug is prescribed to one person doesn’t mean it is safe for another person to use.

“I only use it in moderation, during midterms, finals.”

- » How do you define moderation of a prescription drug that was not prescribed to you? By dosage? 5mg, 10mg, 15mg, 20mg, 25mg, 30mg? How often?
- » Words like “moderation” and “not using in excess” can’t be defined when talking about nonprescribed use.



WHAT IS IT?

Adderall is an amphetamine indicated for the treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). It is available by prescription only.

How it Works

Central Nervous System stimulant drugs act by increasing activity in the brain, which increases wakefulness and alertness in the brain.

These stimulants are thought to block the reuptake of norepinephrine and dopamine into the presynaptic neuron and increase the release of these monoamines into the extraneuronal space.

Potential for Addiction



When taken in high doses, Adderall can increase brain dopamine in a rapid and highly amplified manner, thus disrupting normal communication between brain cells, producing euphoria, and increasing the risk of addiction.

Keeping Your Prescriptions Safe

- » Buy a small lockbox or lockable file cabinet and keep your prescriptions in it. Keep the key or combination in a safe place.
- » Don't tell other students what medications you have.
- » Never offer to give or sell your medications.
- » If someone asks you for your medication say, "No, I need all of it. Please don't ask for any again."

Remember, giving away your prescription means you won't have it when you actually do need it, and you can be held legally responsible for distribution of a controlled substance.

Legal Issues

If a person is caught with prescription medication that is not theirs and it is a controlled substance, such as Adderall, it is a Class C Felony for Possession of a Controlled Substance.

- » A class C Felony carries a punishment of up to 7 years in prison and/or up to \$5,000 fine.
- » MU students found to be in possession of a drug that is not prescribed to them may be placed on probation by the Office of Student Conduct, mandated to meet with a health care professional, and required to do community service.
- » If a person is caught selling prescription drugs it is a Class A Felony, which carries a minimum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum of 30 years to life.
- » In addition, heavier penalties exist for offenders selling prescription drugs near or on school or university property.
- » According to the MU Office of Student Conduct, any student found to be selling drugs (illegal or prescription) will be expelled from the University.

Adverse Effects

- » Increase blood pressure, heart rate, body temperature
- » Decrease sleep and appetite, which can lead to malnutrition
- » Repeated use of stimulants can lead to feelings of hostility and paranoia
- » At high doses, they can lead to serious cardiovascular complications, including stroke
- » If stimulants are used chronically, withdrawal symptoms - including fatigue, depression, and disturbed sleep patterns - can emerge when the drugs are discontinued