

# HUGGS



# DRUGS

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Heroin is a powerful pain-killing illicit drug derived from the opium poppy plant. It is produced from morphine, one of the biologically active components of opium. Heroin is administered in three ways: smoking, snorting, or shooting (injecting). Because it enters the brain quickly, heroin addiction develops rapidly, often within a few uses.

Increasing drug and alcohol abuse is a dangerous trend in the United States. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, nearly 2.1 million hospital Emergency Department visits in 2009 were the result of drug abuse.

Alcoholism and alcohol abuse are among the most common, devastating, and costly problems in the United States. In fact, recent studies have shown that approximately 53 percent of adults in the United States have reported that one or more of their close relatives has a drinking problem.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) National Survey on Drug use and Health 23.5 million people 12 years of age and older needed treatment for an illicit drug or alcohol abuse problem in 2009. 2.6 million - 11.2 percent - only received treatment at a specialty facility.