

Street Drug Use



Drugs can hurt you and your baby. Do you want to stop using drugs or cut down on the amount that you use? Talk to your healthcare providers. There are people who can help and support you. Call HealthLine at 811 and speak to an Addictions/Mental Health Counsellor. This service is free and open 24 hours a day. You can also visit HealthLine Online (<http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/healthline-online>).

Intravenous drug use (shooting up, using needles) puts you at high risk for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis C (HCV). Without proper care, these infections can be passed to your baby.

What about cocaine?

Using cocaine when you are pregnant can hurt your baby. Cocaine can cause you to go into early labour, your baby to have a birth defect, your baby to be born too small (low birth weight), or your baby to die before he is 28 days old.

Using cocaine when you are pregnant can increase your baby's risk of dying from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Cocaine use can also cause your placenta to break away from the wall of your uterus. This is called abruptio placenta. This is dangerous for you and your baby.

What about heroin?

Using heroin during pregnancy can cause your baby to die.

Heroin use can also cause the placenta to break away from the wall of the uterus. This is dangerous for you and your baby. This is called abruptio placenta.

Heroin withdrawal during pregnancy can be dangerous. Using heroin during pregnancy can cause your baby to have withdrawal after birth. To prevent the baby's withdrawal, your healthcare provider may put you on methadone. Methadone is safe to use during pregnancy. Methadone prevents withdrawal symptoms. It will also decrease your cravings for heroin.

Get help to stop using heroin.

What about inhalants?

Using inhalants during pregnancy can cause your baby to die. Your baby may be born with a birth defect. Using inhalants can cause your baby to have mental health or behaviour problems later in life.

What about marijuana?

Using marijuana during pregnancy can cause your baby to be born early. Marijuana use can cause your baby to have a learning problem later in life.



What about methamphetamines?

Using methamphetamine can cause your baby to die before he is born (miscarriage). Methamphetamine can cause the placenta to break away from the wall of the uterus. This is called abruptio placentae. Using methamphetamine is dangerous for you and your baby.