



FACT SHEET

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DATE RAPE DRUGS

The rate of drug-induced sexual assault is on the rise, and the historical use of alcohol as a criminal sedating agent has given way to numerous other substances that render victims helpless and often unconscious. Drug-induced rape poses unique difficulties for both survivors and those who are trying to reduce the risk of assault. Rape survivors assaulted under the influence of sedating drugs will often find it very difficult to recall the incident. It is likely that they will be uncertain about what actually happened and who was involved. This dynamic can dramatically impact the healing process by exaggerating the feelings associated with a loss of control. Additionally, the inability to recall important facts makes prosecution of these crimes extremely difficult. While law enforcement personnel are becoming more aware of the misuse of sedating substances and their effects on victims, there may continue to be some skepticism on the part of those unfamiliar or inexperienced in dealing with these types of crimes.

DRUGS USED TO SEDATE

- Chloral Hydrate (sleep)
- Gamma Hydroxybutyrate (GHB – steroid alternative)
- Flunitrazepam (Rohypnol – sleep and anesthesia)
- Ketamine (veterinary anesthesia)
- Scopolamine (anesthesia)
- Alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cocaine

STREET NAMES

The two most commonly used substances in drug-induced rape are GHB and Rohypnol. These two drugs are known by many common names also:

- GHB: Liquid Ecstasy, Liquid C, Grievous Bodily Harm, and Easy Lay
- Rohypnol: Roofies, Roachies, La Rocha, and the Forget Pill
- Ketamine: Special K, "K," Vitamin K

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

- impaired judgment and memory
- dizziness
- confusion
- lowered inhibition
- hampered motor coordination
- loss of consciousness
- seizures
- nausea
- death