

Warning Signs

Written by

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<p>This section will help parents be one of the winning factors in our fight against drugs. Here you will find articles and information to help you spot the early warning signs and symptoms of drug use.</p>	
<p>Warning signs of a potential drug problem include:</p>	
<p>If you notice unexplained changes in physical appearance or behavior, it may be a sign of substance use or it could be a sign of another problem. You will not know definitively until a professional does a screening.</p>	
<p>Physical Signs</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Change in sleeping patternsBloodshot eyesSlurred or agitated speechSudden or dramatic weight loss or gainSkin abrasions/bruisesNeglected appearance/poor hygieneSick more frequentlyAccidents or injuries	
<p>Behavioral Signs</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hiding use; lying and covering upSense that the person will "do anything" to use again regardless of consequencesLoss of control or choice of use (drug-seeking behavior)Loss of interest in previously enjoyed activitiesEmotional instabilityHyperactive or hyper-aggressiveDepressionMissing school or workFailure to fulfill responsibilities at school or workComplaints from teachers or co-workersReports of intoxication at school or workFurtive or secretive behaviorAvoiding eye contactLocked doorsGoing out every nightChange in friends or peer groupChange in clothing or appearanceUnusual smells on clothing or breathHeavy use of over-the-counter preparations to reduce eye reddening, nasal irritation, or bad breathHidden stashes of alcoholAlcohol missing from your supplyPrescription medicine missingMoney missingValuables missingDisappearances for long periods of timeRunning awaySecretive phone callsUnusual containers or wrappers	