

SESSION IV
METHODS OF INGESTION/INJECTION

SESSION IV: METHODS OF INGESTION AND INJECTION

Upon successfully completing this session, the participant will be better able to:

- o Describe the common methods of ingesting drugs.

CONTENT SEGMENTS

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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| A. Methods of Ingestion and Injection | o Instructor-Led Presentation |
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A. Methods Of Ingestion/Injection

If the means of ingestion can be determined, it can be a significant clue as to the involved drug category.

Different drugs are taken into the body in various ways. Drugs may be ingested orally. Some Depressants, Stimulants, Dissociative Anesthetics, and Narcotic Analgesics are commonly taken in a pill or capsule. Some other drugs such as Hallucinogens can be eaten in their naturally occurring form.

Ingestion through the nasal area or insufflation is a very common method of ingesting some Stimulants and Narcotic Analgesics. This method of ingestion may cause marked reddening in the nasal area, or even traces of the ingested substance in the nose.

Another common method of ingestion is for the user to inhale the drug or fumes from the drug. Gasoline, paint and anesthetic gases are usually ingested by inhaling. When we think of drug use by hypodermic needle, we usually think primarily of Narcotics, and especially Heroin. Many people inject other drugs. Cocaine and Methamphetamine, for example, are often "shot", and hypodermic injection of certain Depressants, Phencyclidine and LSD, is not unheard of.

You should be extremely careful when dealing with suspected drug users. **PROTECTIVE RUBBER GLOVES SHOULD ALWAYS** be worn to reduce the possibility of contracting contagious diseases such as **AIDS** and **HEPATITIS**. These suspects may also be carrying used, non-sterile syringes or needles on their person.