

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS Rx Drugs: **DEPRESSANTS**

Street Names

Downers, Barbs, Benzos, Yellow jackets, Reds (barbiturates)

Method of Use

Swallowed, Snorted, Injected

Depressants are primarily used to treat anxiety and sleep disorders.

- Barbiturates (Nembutal, Seconal, Phenobarbital)
- Benzodiazepines (Ativan, Halcion, Librium, Valium, Xanax)
- Some sleep medications (Ambien, Sonata, Lunesta)

Symptoms/ Effects of Use

- Feeling of well-being
- Lowered inhibitions
- Poor concentration
- Confusion
- Fatigue
- Impaired coordination
- Impaired memory
- Impaired judgment
- Slowed heart rate and breathing
- Lowered blood pressure
- Reduced pain/anxiety
- Respiratory depression and arrest
- Tolerance

What to look for...

- Slurred speech
- Confusion
- Memory loss
- Missing medications
- Doctor shopping
- Unexplained loss of money

Withdrawal Symptoms

- Rebound effect" (return of symptoms that the drug was counteracting)
- Restlessness
- Agitation or irritability
- Muscle tension
- Tremors
- Weakness
- Seizure
- Delirium

Note: Each person may experience different symptoms/effects. This list is not inclusive. For more information, visit www.drugabuse.go