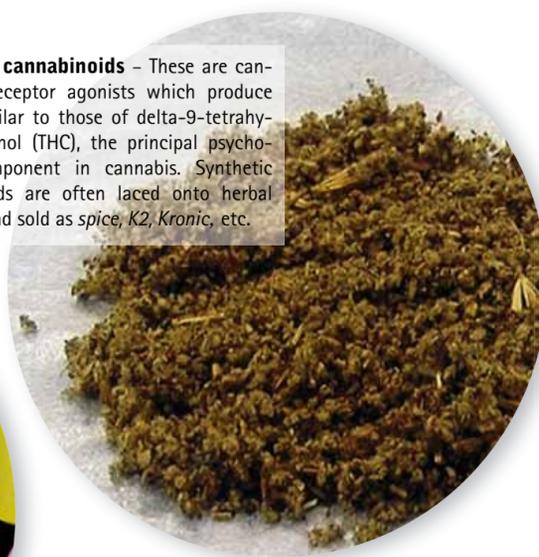


Synthetic cannabinoids – These are cannabinoid receptor agonists which produce effects similar to those of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the principal psychoactive component in cannabis. Synthetic cannabinoids are often laced onto herbal products and sold as *spice*, *K2*, *Kronic*, etc.



Synthetic cathinones – These are analogues/derivatives of the internationally controlled substance cathinone, one of the active components of the khat plant. They generally have stimulant effects and include frequently reported NPS such as mephedrone and MDPV.



Other substances – such as aminodanes (stimulants), phencyclidine-type substances (hallucinogens) and tryptamines (hallucinogens).



NPS

Categories of new psychoactive substances sold in the market

Plant-based substances – This group includes plants with psychoactive properties. The most frequently reported are:

- Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa* Korth), a plant indigenous to South-East Asia that contains the alkaloid mitragynine; a stimulant at low doses and sedative at high doses.
- *Salvia divinorum*, a plant indigenous to forest areas in Oaxaca, Mexico, which contains the active ingredient salvinorin A, a hallucinogenic substance.
- Khat (*Catha edulis*), a plant native to the horn of Africa and the Arabian peninsula. The leaves of the plant are chewed, resulting in the release of the stimulants cathinone and cathine.



Ketamine – A human and veterinary anaesthetic which acts as a stimulant at low doses and a hallucinogen at high doses. It is one of the most widespread NPS in Asia.



Phenethylamines – This group contains substances related to amphetamine and methamphetamine, and generally produces stimulant effects. However, modification of these compounds can lead to potent hallucinogens such as *Bromo-Dragonfly*.



Piperazines – These substances are frequently sold as 'ecstasy' due to their central nervous system stimulant properties. The most commonly reported members of this group are benzylpiperazine (BZP) and mCPP (1-(3-chlorophenyl) piperazine)



Make health your “new high” in life - not drugs.