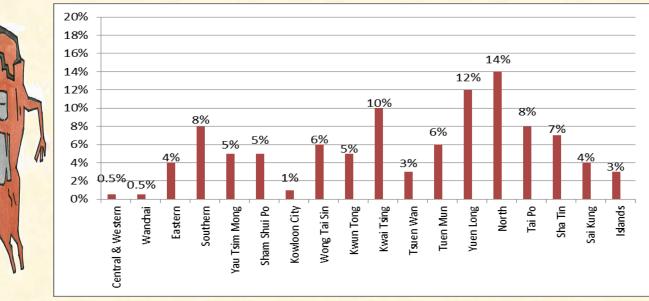


The continuous trend of hidden youth drug abuse

There is a continuous trend of hidden youth drug abuse. In the first half of 2014, about 80% of young drug abusers took drugs at home or friend's home. In fact, youth drug abuse can be traced. Parents should keep a close eye on the usual behaviour and the health of their children. You may try to circle <u>ten</u> kinds of drugs or drug taking equipment hidden in the photo below. (Answers are on the next page)



Reported drug abusers aged under 21 by district of residence (1st three quarters of 2014)



Source: Central Registry of Drug Abuse, Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau

Healthy School: Tips for parents

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Many young people were misled that they would have lesser legal liability for drug trafficking or drug abuse than adults. In fact, according to the law of Hong Kong, the legal provisions apply to people of all ages. The maximum penalty for drug trafficking is life imprisonment and a fine of \$5 million. The following are sentences for some real cases of drug trafficking in recent years:

F.4 student was jailed for 11 years Trafficking ketamine for "Quick Money"

A 16-year-old F.4 student earned "quick money" of \$3,000 by trafficking 2.63 of kilograms ketamine valued at \$400,000. He was sentenced to 11 years and 4 months of imprisonment.

17-year-old girl trafficking in drugs for \$2,000 was jailed for 9 years

A 17-year-old girl involved in trafficking 1.86 kilograms of ketamine for a reward of \$2,000 to purchase the latest model of camera. She was eventually jailed for 9 years and 4 months.

16-year-old teenager was severely sentenced to 13 years of imprisonment

A 16-year-old teenager was arrested for trafficking 1 kilogram of cocaine. At first, he thought he would only be sentenced to 2 years. In the end, he was sentenced by the court to 13 years of imprisonment.

F.2 student was jailed for 6 years on drug trafficking

A F.2 student involved in trafficking 440 grams of ketamine. Her counsel pleaded the court for sending her to training centre. However, the judge stated that drug trafficking was a serious offence. She was finally sentenced to 6 years of imprisonment.

Maximum Sentence of the Drug Related Legislation:

Activity	Fine	Imprisonment
Possession or consumption of drug	HK \$1,000,000	7 Years
Trafficking in drug	HK \$5,000,000	Life imprisonment
Manufacture of dangerous drug	HK \$5,000,000	Life imprisonment
Possession of pipes and equipment,	HK \$10,000	3 Years
etc. for taking drugs		

Source : Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau and

the High Court of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region



Answers : (Clockwise from the bottom left) 1. White powder wrapped in 6. Cough medicine a paper or banknote 7. Long and short straws 2. Pills and plastic bag 8. Tin foil of medicine

3. Lighter

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- 4. Thinner
- 5. Drink with two straws
- 9. Rolled cannabis cigarette 10. Syringe

Rising trend of abusing cannabis Cannabis



Street name: Marijuana, hash, grass



The number of reported cannabis abusers has increased by 28% in the first half of 2014 compared with the same period of last year. Cannabis abuse is a criminal offence as with the abuse of other dangerous drugs. We should not underestimate the harmful effects that cannabis could cause to the bodies and should remain vigilant against the misguided belief that cannabis is not addictive.

Harmful effects and signs of abusing Cannabis :

Hallucination

Heightened risk

- Irritability • Short temper
- Impaired co-ordination
- Respiratory disease
- of cancer
- Reduced concentration, impaired memory and judgment
- Depression and extreme suspicion of others