STEROIDS

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF USE

Sudden extreme muscle growth; wild, sometimes violent, mood swings; missing money; a sudden change in appearance and/or attitude; unexplained absences; change in friends

SHORT AND LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Short-term (men and women): increased muscle size, depression, mood swings, paranoia

Long-term (men and women): stunted growth, kidney damage, liver damage, heart problems, high blood pressure, high cholesterol

Long-term (men): decreased size of testicles, reduced sperm count, baldness, developing breasts, infertility

Long-term (women): baldness, growing facial hair, problems with menstrual cycle, development of a deeper voice, infertility

STREET NAMES

Roids, Juice

HOW IT’S USED

Injected or swallowed in pill form

WHY IT’S DANGEROUS

Steroids pose a serious risk to a person’s health. They may cause permanent damage to the heart, liver, and kidneys. They are also extremely harmful to a person’s reproductive system, and may cause infertility. Also, steroids have been known to cause severe mood swings called “roid rage,” where the person using the drug may suddenly become very angry without reason. There is also an increased chance of developing paranoia and depression.