ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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HAN00509

Severe Illness Potentially Associated with Consuming Diamond Shruumz™ Products
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Dear Colleagues:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), America's Poison Centers, and state and local partners are investigating reports of severe acute illnesses potentially associated with consuming Diamond Shruumz™ brand chocolate bars, cones, and gummies marketed as containing a proprietary blend of mushroom.

As of June 11, 2024, 12 total illnesses and 10 hospitalizations have been reported among patients who consumed Diamond Shruumz[™] products in eight U.S. states. Several patients required intubation, mechanical ventilation, and admission to an intensive care unit. None have died.

Summary of Recommendations for Clinicians:

- 1. Maintain a **high index of suspicion** for **edible-related severe acute illness** in patients presenting with:
 - Central nervous system depression with sedation
 - Seizures
 - Muscle rigidity
 - Clonus
 - Tremor
 - Abnormal heart rate (bradycardia, tachycardia)
- Abnormal blood pressure (hypotension, hypertension)
- Gastrointestinal effects (nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain)
- Skin flushing
- Diaphoresis
- Metabolic acidosis with increased anion gap
- ...and ask about exposure to any edibles or products containing psychoactive compounds such as cannabis or mushroom extracts, specifically Diamond Shruumz[™] brand chocolate bars, cones, or gummies.
- 2. **Consult early** with a medical toxicologist and the National Capital Poison Center (1-800-222-1222) to manage patients.
- 3. **Order tests** based on presentation and retain urine and blood samples for further testing.
- 4. Provide supportive care.
- 5. **Contact** Alexandria Health Department (AHD) at **703.746.4951** to report suspected cases of illness after consuming mushroom-containing chocolate or other similar edible products.



- 6. **Counsel** patients, caregivers, and guardians that edibles or food-like products marketed with nonspecific health benefits or implied psychoactive effects might contain undisclosed, misformulated, or unapproved ingredients that can cause severe adverse health effects.
 - Consult the <u>FDA advisory</u> for pictures of Diamond Shruumz[™] products, considerations for clinicians, and recommendations for how to talk to patients about these products.

Questions? Email alex epi@vdh.virginia.gov or call 703.746.4951.

Thank you for protecting and promoting the health and well-being of our communities.

Sincerely,

David C. Rose, MD, MBA, FAAP

Health Director

Kim Luk, MD, MPH Medical Director

