5 Case Reports Intoxication from Smoking “Spice”

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Abstract

“Spice” refers to herbal compounds sold as incense and as a legal alternative to marijuana. Product descriptions suggest that such compounds produce an effect similar to tetrahydrocannabinol, the active ingredient in marijuana. Studies have shown that many spice products are sprayed with synthetic cannabinoids, substances that cause intoxication. Despite widespread use in Europe, spice products were introduced to the United States only recently. Little is known or published about the clinical course of intoxication. To provide preliminary management experience for future cases, we describe 5 patients with Intoxication from smoking “Spice” after who contacted within 2-3 hours of smoking spices. All patients were examined at the Republican Psychiatric Hospital, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Key words: intoxication; smoking “spice”

Introduction

“Spice” refers to herbal compounds sold as frankincense and a legal alternative to marijuana. Product descriptions suggest that such compounds produce an effect similar to that of tetrahydrocannabinol, the active ingredient in marijuana. Studies have shown that many spice products are sprayed with synthetic cannabinoids, the actual substances responsible for intoxication [1] It is known that Synthetic cannabinoids are part of a group of drugs called new psychoactive substances. New psychoactive are unregulated mind-altering substances that have become newly available on the market and are intended to produce the same effects as illegal drugs. Some of these substances may have been around for years but have reentered the market in altered chemical forms, or due to renewed popularity [2].

Case 1

The patient was examined at the mental health center the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Patient 1 was a 25-year-old male who vomited and reported having seizures approximately 1 hour after smoking an herbal product called Spicy XXX. Upon arrival, he was mildly tachycardic and tachyptic In the mental status of patients, almost all the symptoms of mental disorders are found: disturbance of appearance and behavior, hostile, agitated, depressed, compulsions, delusions, hallucinations, depersonalization, derealization, Orientation (time, place, person, situation), attention (concentration) and memory, absence and generalized convulsions, qualitative and quantitative disorders of consciousness, nausea and vomiting and other symptoms. He considers his father to be his son.

Case 2

The patient was examined at the Republican Psychiatric Hospital, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Patient 2 was a 23-year-old male who suppressed with confusion and repeated vomiting about 1 hour after smoking Spicy XXX. He was sleepy and focused only on man. When he woke up, he was excited and fighting. In this patient also meet all the symptoms of mental disorders are found: disturbance of appearance and behavior, hostile, agitated, depressed, compulsions, delusions, hallucinations, depersonalization, derealization, Orientation (time, place, person, situation), attention (concentration) and memory, absence and generalized convulsions, qualitative and quantitative disorders of consciousness, nausea and vomiting and other symptoms. He considers his father to be his son.

Case 3

The patient also was examined at the Republican Psychiatric Hospital, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Patient 2 was a 23-year-old man and reported seizure activity approximately 2 hour after smoking an herbal product called Spicy XXX. Signs of Spice use in this patient: visual and auditory hallucinations; with their eyes closed, people see various vivid images, hear sounds and speech; violation of consciousness and thinking. A person in a state of drug intoxication after using Spice loses touch with reality, ceases to feel his own body. There are frequent cases of complete loss of consciousness; decreased intelligence; unconscious actions; amnesia and etc. He considers his father to be his son.
and behavior, hostile, agitated, depressed, compulsions, delusions, hallucinations, depersonalization, derealization, Orientation (time, place, person, situation), attention (concentration) and memory, absence and generalized convulsions, qualitative and quantitative disorders of consciousness, nausea and vomiting, red eyes (as if after a long sleeplessness), and other symptoms. He considers his father to be his son.

**Case 5** The patient was examined at the mental health center the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan. 18-year-old male who vomited and reported having seizures approximately 1 hour after smoking an herbal product called Spicy XXX. Upon arrival, increased irritability and nervousness, frequent depression, red eyes (as if after a long sleeplessness), agitation, vomiting, drowsiness, tachycardia, mydriasis, and a rather long duration of symptoms. Aggression against oneself, amnesia (after the state of intoxication goes away, a person cannot remember what he was doing and what was happening around him at that time) and others and etc. He considers his father to be his son.

In a word, in our patients, as it were, all psychopathologists observed the symptoms encountered in psychiatry.

**Conclusion**

Thus, for the first time, we discovered a symptom that no one had described before or encountered it. In all 5 cases, patients considered fathers to be their sons. Therefore, we decided to call this symptom by the names of the authors of this article - “Symptom of Nadir-Zafar.” Common clinical features in our patients included agitation, vomiting, drowsiness, tachycardia, mydriasis, and a rather long duration of symptoms. We in the world psychiatry did not find such a symptom when the patient believes that he is the father of his son, that is, he considers his father to be his son. At the same time, the identity of the mother remains untouched. Although we could not objectively confirm the presence of synthetic cannabinoids in these patients with currently available urine screening screens, each of which was presented after the spice product was discovered.

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The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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We confirm that we have read the Journal’s position on issues involved in ethical publication and affirm that this report is consistent with those guidelines.

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