## **Tox**Tidbits



July 2024 Poison Center Hotline: 1-800-222-1222

The Maryland Poison Center's Monthly Update: News, Advances, Information

## **Diamond Shruumz**

Diamond Shruumz brand products are under ongoing investigation by CDC, FDA, America's Poison Centers and state agencies as severe illnesses potentially resulting from ingestion of their chocolate bars, cones, and gummies have occurred. As of July 22, 2024 a total of 74 cases of "severe effects" have been identified in 28 states. Of these cases 38 have resulted in hospitalization and two potentially associated deaths are under investigation. As of June 27, 2024, all Diamond Shruumz brand products have been recalled by Prophet Premium Blends. Reported effects have included seizures, loss of consciousness, and respiratory failure requiring intubation have been reported. Additionally, vomiting, confusion, agitation, clonus, tremor, hallucinations, hypertension, hypotension, tachycardia, bradycardia, excessive secretions, diaphoresis, and metabolic acidosis with increased anion gap have also been reported. Symptoms have occurred shortly after ingestion of the Diamond Shruumz products under investigation.

FDA and local agencies have collected multiple Diamond Shruumz brand products samples for testing and to identify possible causative agents of the severe effects associated with eating them. On June 25, 2024 the FDA released results from the testing of two chocolate bars from a retail store. Analysis of a Diamond Shruumz Dark Chocolate bar revealed the presence of psilacetin, desmethoxyyangonin, dihydrokavain, and kavain. The analysis of a Diamond Shruumz Birthday Cake Chocolate bar revealed the presence of psilacetin. The FDA warns there may be "variability across lots and batches of the same product" and that FDA and CDC medical officers are "interpreting these test results to understand the health risks of ingesting these chemical substances". Prophet Premium Blends have reported some products were found to contain "higher levels of Muscimol than normal".

Psilacetin is a synthetic hallucinogenic tryptamine similar to Psilocin and Psilocybin. Tryptamines can cause pleasant or frightening hallucinations, unpredictable behavior, time distortion, confusion, drowsiness, and enhanced color awareness. Some individuals may develop severe anxiety and possibly agitation, leading to hypertension, tachycardia, rhabdomyolysis, and hyperthermia following tryptamine use.

Desmethoxyyangonin, dihydrokavain, and kavain are kavalactones found in the Kava Kava plant. Use of large amounts of Kava can cause tachycardia, hypertension, diaphoresis, sedation, visual disturbances, and ataxia. With chronic, large amounts used disorientation, hallucinations, and seborrheic dermatitis have been reported.

Muscimol, is a chemical structurally similar to gamma-amionbutyric acid (GABA), an inhibitory neurotransmitter, and can cause CNS depression, sedation, and ataxia.

It is possible that other toxins are present in similar mushroom edible products, and management should focus on supportive care, assessing for risk of seizures, and use of benzodiazepines for seizures or agitation.

Treatment of patients experiencing severe effects from Diamond Shruumz brand products should focus on treating the clinical effects they exhibit. Benzodiazepines as needed are the mainstays for toxin-induced agitation or seizures. Intubation if needed for airway protection.

For treatment recommendations for Diamond Shruumz brand products or any other poisoning, call your local poison center at 1-800-222-1222.





**Diamond Shruumz Products** 

## Did you know?

Muscimol is not the only hallucinogenic substance present in *Amanita muscaria* and similar mushrooms.

Ibotenic acid, which is converted non-enzymatically to muscimol, is a glutamate-like substance which can cause agitated delirium, seizures, and hallucinations.

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