

Review B1.3 Use and abuse of drugs

<i>Can you...?</i>			
B1.3.1 Drugs			
State that scientists are continually developing new drugs, which affect body chemistry			
Outline the stages used to find if new drugs are safe and effective, including the use of cells, tissues and live animals in laboratories			
Describe the stages used in clinical trials, beginning with safety tests with healthy volunteers and including double blind placebo controlled trials			
Describe the use of statins in lowering the risk of heart and circulatory diseases			
Evaluate the effect of statins in cardiovascular disease			
Describe how thalidomide was used as a medicine when it was first developed			
Explain how the misuse of thalidomide led to the introduction of more rigorous drug testing, and describe how thalidomide has been used successfully to treat some diseases			
Describe the effects of misuse of legal recreational drugs (alcohol and nicotine)			
Describe the effects of misuse of the illegal recreational drug cannabis, and state that ecstasy, cannabis and heroin may have adverse affects on the heart and circulation			
State that cannabis smoke contains chemicals that may cause mental illness			
Compare the impact of legal (prescribed and non-prescribed) and illegal drugs on health			
Consider the benefits of medicinal drugs, the impact of non-medical drugs such as alcohol, and the possible misuse of legal drugs			
Explain that some drugs, such as heroin and cocaine, are very addictive because of the way they change the chemical processes in peoples' bodies causing dependency			
Evaluate different types of drugs and why some people use illegal drugs for recreation			
Evaluate claims made about the effect of prescribed and non-prescribed drugs on health			
Consider the possible progression from recreational drugs to hard drugs			
Outline some of the drugs that athletes can use to enhance performance, including stimulants and anabolic steroids			
State that some performance-enhancing drugs are banned by law while others are legally available on prescription, but all are prohibited by sporting regulations			
Evaluate the use of drugs to enhance performance in sport and consider the ethical implications of their use			