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Phencyclidine

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Phencyclidine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C738.

Developed as an anesthetic for humans in 1959. Its use was discontinued due to extreme side effects that included delirium, confusion, visual disturbances, hallucinations and violence; some evidence of long-term memory disorders and schizophrenia-like syndrome has been observed. Phencyclidine, a substance of abuse also known as 'angel dust', can cause physical and psychological distresses, such as coma, seizures, convulsions, respiratory depression, and cardiac problems.