<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Class / Substances</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stimulants</strong> eg: Lisdexamfetamine, Methylphenidate, Dexamphetamine, Methamphetamine, MDMA (3,4-Methylenedioxy) methamphetamine, Cocaine, Speed.</td>
<td>Stimulant drugs are generally used to treat mood disorders, sleep disorders, impulse control disorders, obesity, asthma and nasal congestion. <strong>Positive Effects:</strong> Wakefulness, increased concentration, appetite suppression and opening of respiratory system.</td>
<td>Stimulant drugs have the potential for abuse particularly when in the form of: cocaine, methamphetamine and speed. <strong>Negative Effects:</strong> Tremors, high blood pressure, headaches, heart palpitations, increased heart rate, risk of stroke, cardiac problems, and insomnia.</td>
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<td><strong>Depressants</strong> Eg: Alprazolam, Clonazapam, Diazepam, Estazolam, Lorazepam.</td>
<td>Depressant drugs can slow brain activity, making them useful in treating anxiety, panic, acute stress reactions, sleep disorders, muscle spasms and alcohol withdrawal. <strong>Positive Effects:</strong> Reduction in arousal and stimulation, sedation, sleep-inducing, anticonvulsant and muscle relaxant.</td>
<td>When abused depressant drugs can produce depression, chronic fatigue, breathing difficulties, sexual problems and risk of death due to overdose. <strong>Negative Effects:</strong> Suppressed respiratory system, lowered heart rate, lowered blood pressure and sexual dysfunction.</td>
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<td><strong>Opioids</strong> Eg: Codeine, Fentanyl, Morphine, Methadone, Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Heroin.</td>
<td>Opioid drugs are used for their ability to block pain messages sent to the brain. This makes them useful medications in the management of pain and anaesthesia. <strong>Positive Effects:</strong> Suppression of pain response, cough suppressant, anaesthesia and stool hardener.</td>
<td>When abused opioid drugs can produce, breathing difficulties, sexual problems and risk of death due to overdose. <strong>Negative Effects:</strong> Constipation, stomach ulcers, supressed heart rate, supressed repertory system, itching feeling, drowsiness and sexual dysfunction vomiting.</td>
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| **Dissociatives**  
Eg: Ketamine, Phencyclidine (PCP), Nitrous Oxide, Dextromethorphan (DXM), Salvia divinorum. | Dissociative drugs are generally used to induce and maintain anaesthesia but are also used to treat migraines, mood disorders, depression, pain management and as a cough suppressant.  
**Positive Effects:**  
Anaesthetic properties, numbing and disassociation (detachment from one’s body). | When abused dissociatives can cause damage to the bladder and is also sometimes used as a drug in sexual assault.  
**Negative Effects:** Memory loss, nausea, paralysis, increased blood pressure, increased intracranial pressure and vomiting. |
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| **Hallucinogens**  
Eg: LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide), Psilocybin, Mescaline, DMT (N,N-Dimethyltryptamine), NBOMes. | Hallucinogenic drugs have been used for centuries in many indigenous cultures as a tool to aid spiritual initiation and healing. Recently in western medicine, hallucinogens have shown to be beneficial in the treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, substance abuse disorders and cluster headaches.  
**Positive Effects:**  
Increased suggestibility, greater openness, feelings of connectedness, and feelings of relaxation. | Hallucinogens have the potential to cause anxiety, nervousness and paranoia as well as exacerbate pre-existing mental health conditions.  
**Negative Effects:**  
Potential for ‘bad trip’, sleep problems, disorganised thinking and mood disturbances. |
| **Cannabinoids**  
Eg:  
Tetrahydrocannabinolic Acid (THCA),  
Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), Cannabidiol (CBD), Cannabinol (CBN),  
Cannabigerol (CBG), Cannabichromene (CBC),  
Tetrahydrocannabinivarin (THCV), Cannabidivarin (CBDV) | Cannabinoids have been beneficial in treating mood disorders, glaucoma, slowing Alzheimer’s disease, Multiple Scoliosis (MS), preventing epileptic seizures, general pain management, nausea and slowing tumour growth.  
**Positive Effects:**  
Sedation, anti-inflammatory, pain relief, nausea suppression, kills some cancer cells, slowing of tumour growth, muscle relaxant and stimulates appetite. | Cannabinoids have potential to be abused particularly Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).  
**Negative Effects:**  
Depression, food cravings, low blood pressure, anxiety, lung damage (if smoked) and sexual dysfunction. |
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| **Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)**  
Eg: Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Celecoxib, Diclofenac, Indomethacin, Naproxen. | NSAID’s have been beneficial in the treatment of inflammation, fever, headaches, general pain management and cardiac disease.  
**Positive Effects:**  
Pain relief, reduces inflammation and anti-clotting properties. | When taken long term or abused NSAID’s have potential to cause harm especially to the gastrointestinal system.  
**Negative Effects:**  
Stomach ulcers, diarrhoea, constipation, nausea, heartburn, vomiting, headaches, dizziness, liver problems and kidney problems. |
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