



How Dangerous is Angel Dust Libyan International Medical University



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Introduction

“Angel Dust”, “Rocket Fuel” – these are only some of the street names used to reference the drug **PCP(Phencyclidine)**, it has ability to create the delusion of supreme strength, euphoria, and enhanced sexual and social abilities

Mechanism of action

The N-methyl-D-Aspartate (NMDA) receptor, a type of ionotropic receptor, It is a major excitatory receptor in the brain. PCP inhibits depolarization of neurons and cognitive and other functions of the nervous system⁽¹⁾

The Effects of PCP

dissociative anesthetic state, which can :

- Sight and sound distortion.
- Detachment.
- Sedation.
- Amnesia.

Low to moderate amounts

- Feelings of detachment.
- Slurred speech.
- Numbness.
- Loss of coordination,

In higher doses, PCP produces:

- Hallucinations.

Chronic PCP use can result in:

- Cognitive , memory and Speech impairment.
- Depression,
- Suicidality.

Deaths resulting from :

- Hyperthermia.
- Acute renal failure.
- Rhabdomyolysis
- Disseminated intravascular coagulation ⁽¹⁾

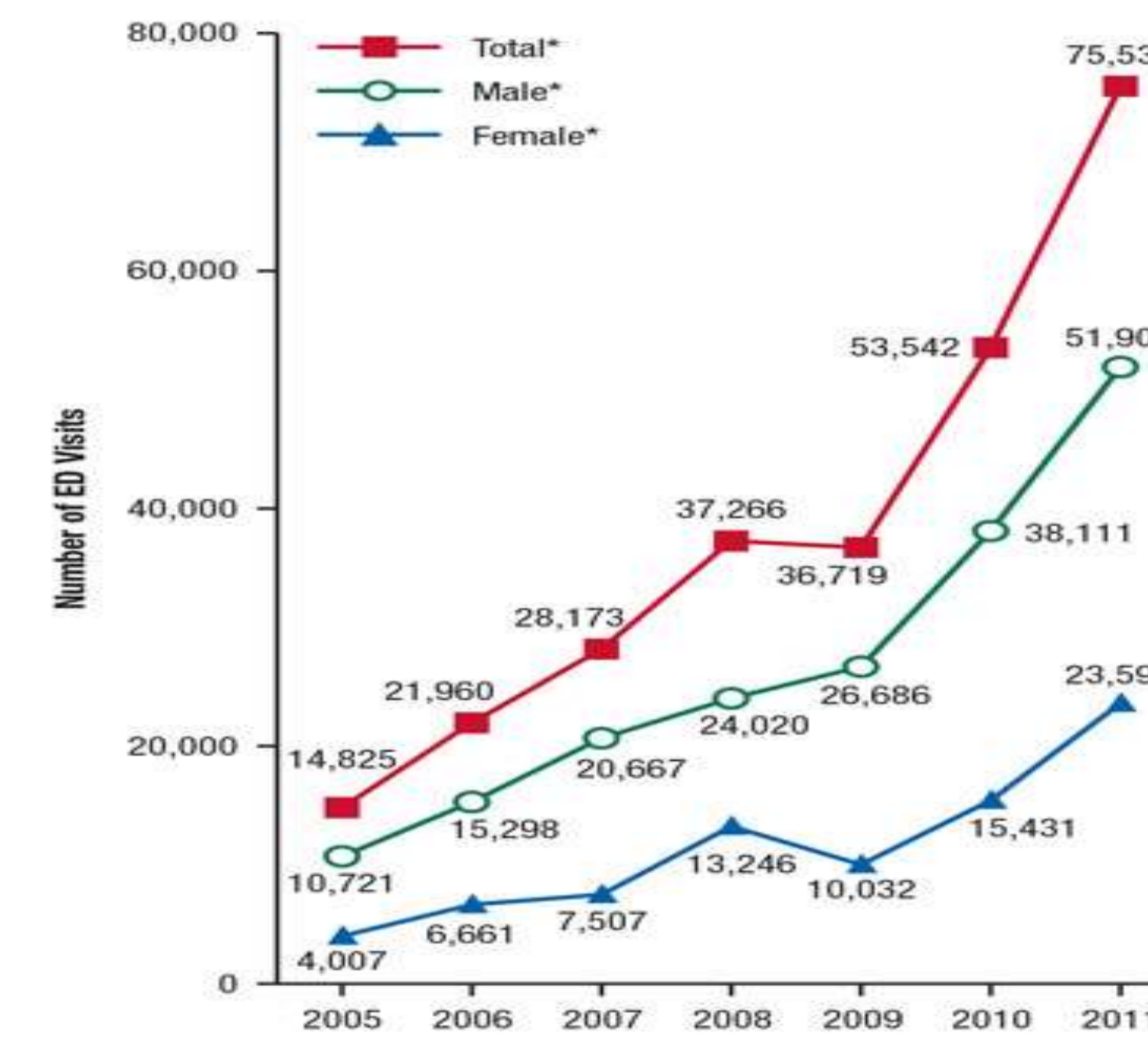
Study about number of PCP-related emergency department (ED) visits

Material

Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) estimates for a selection of metropolitan areas indicate that there continues to be geographic variation, with the number of PCP-related emergency department (ED) visits increasing in some areas (New York City, Chicago) and remaining stable in others (Seattle, San Francisco, and Phoenix) Data are collected on numerous illicit drugs, including cocaine, marijuana, heroin, and stimulants (e.g., amphetamines and methamphetamines) ⁽¹⁾

Result

Between 2005 and 2011, PCP-related ED visits by males increased nearly fivefold (from 10,721 to 51,906 visits), and visits by females increased nearly sixfold (from 4,007 to 23,598 visits). Figure 1 ⁽¹⁾



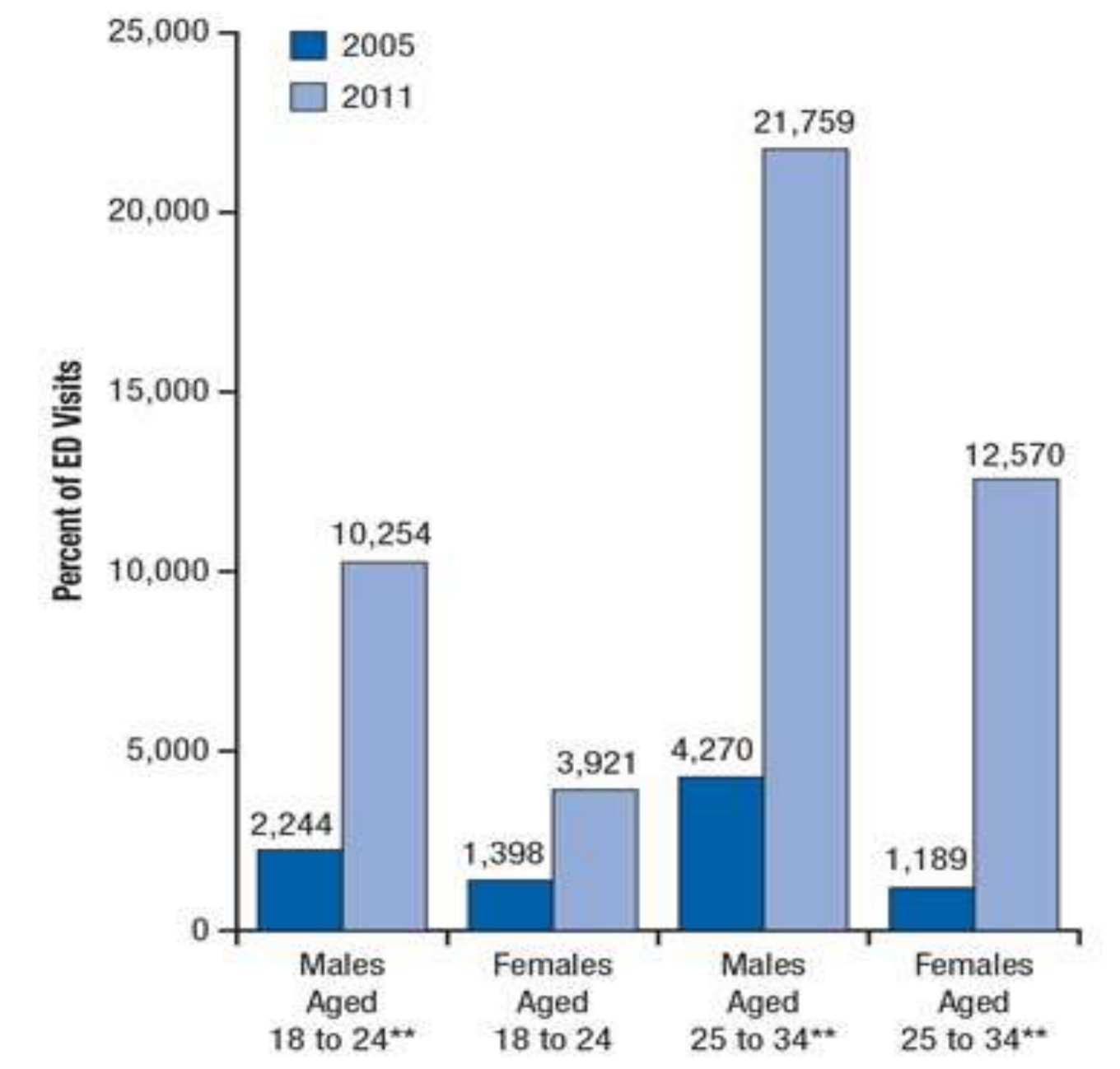
The number of PCP-related visits increased 518 percent (from 5,556 visits to 34,329) Also, visits by adults aged 18 to 24 increased 289 percent (from 3,643 visits to 14,175). ⁽¹⁾

Table 1. Emergency Department (ED) Visits Involving Phencyclidine (PCP), by Age* and Year: 2005 vs. 2011

Age Group	Number of ED Visits, 2005	Number of ED Visits, 2011	Percent Change, 2005 to 2011
Total ED Visits	14,825	75,538	410%
Aged 12 to 17	691	1,965	184%
Aged 18 to 24**	3,643	14,175	289%
Aged 25 to 34**	5,556	34,329	518%
Aged 35 to 44	3,651	14,606	300%
Aged 45 or Older	***	***	***

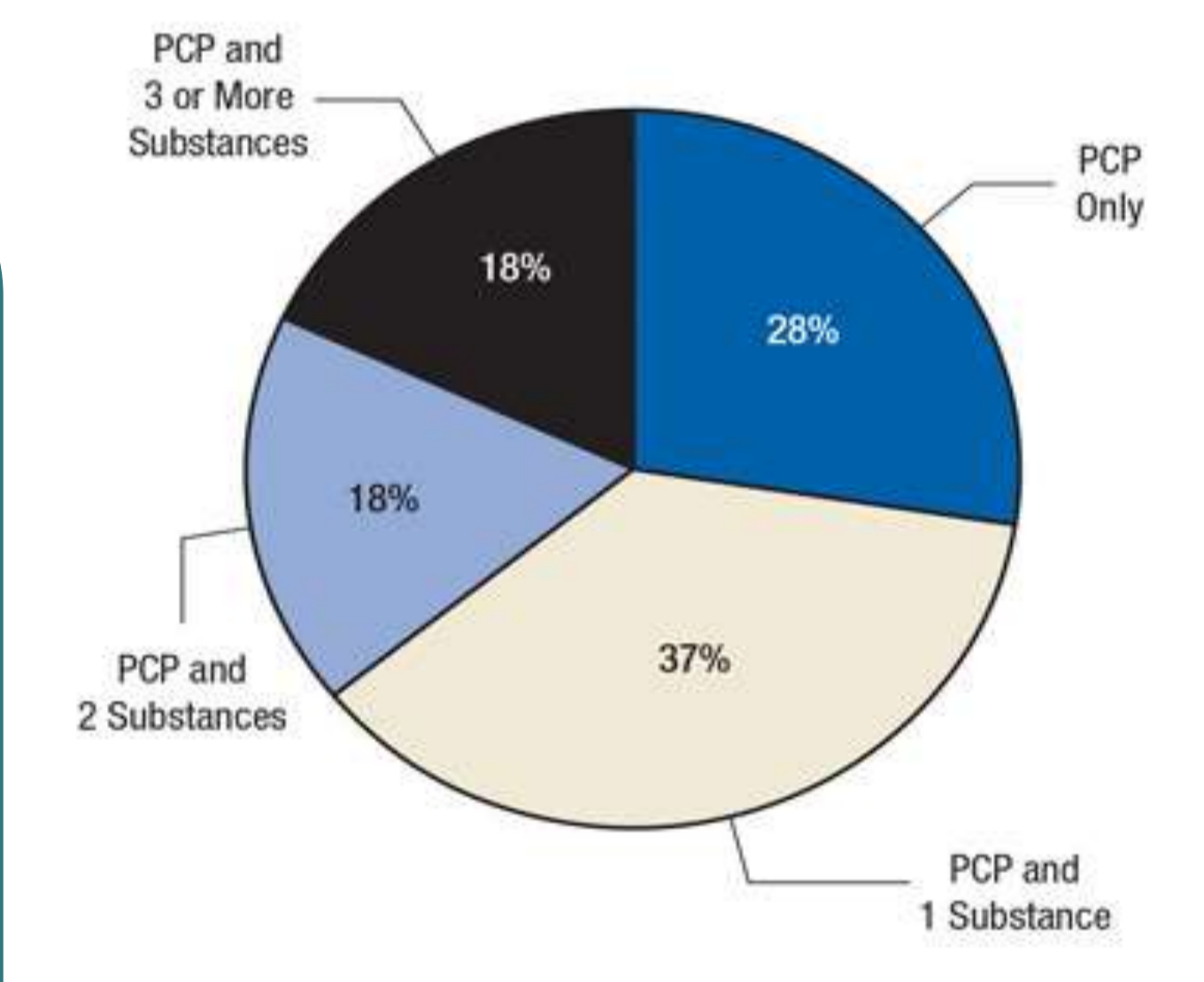
Increases in PCP-related visits involving young adults were also observed for male patients aged 18 to 24 and 25 to 34.

For females, the increase only occurred among patients aged 25 to 34, although it was substantial (from 1,189 visits in 2005 to 12,570 in 2011) (Figure 3). ⁽¹⁾



* ED visits for which age and gender are unknown have been excluded.
** The difference between 2005 and 2011 is statistically significant at the .05 level.
Source: 2005 to 2011 SAMHSA Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN).

Approximately 7 out of 10 (72 percent) PCP-related visits involved other drugs combined with PCP (Figure 4) ⁽¹⁾



Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
Source: 2011 SAMHSA Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN).

Conclusion

1. The recent increase in ED visits involving PCP is reported to be the most dangerous.
2. Based on the DAWN findings, prevention efforts could include warnings about the use of PCP and additional efforts to target adults aged 25 to 34
3. By recognizing the signs and symptoms of PCP intoxication, health care providers can help to ensure that patients who come into medical facilities receive immediate and appropriate care

Reference

1_ Highlights of the 2010 Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) Findings on Drug-Related Emergency Department Visits..