

WHERE ARE USERS ACQUIRING ANABOLIC STEROIDS?



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When you hear the word “steroids”, many people’s minds go straight to a doctor’s office or maybe even a clean pharmaceutical lab. They think of a very expensive drug that only comes from a prescription written by their doctor. Typically that is not the type of anabolic steroids most users typically get involved with.

For many years the anabolic steroids sold on the street are coming from “underground laboratories” and then sold on the black market. This is the reality of where these drugs are coming from and where users are now turning to for these drugs.

Virtually all the anabolic steroids that are sold on the “street” are illegally imported from other countries, often times China. They are shipped in a powder form to local dealers across the U.S. The local drug dealers mix the powder with various oils: baby oil, vegetable oil, sesame seed oil, peanut oil before being placed into vials and sold to unsuspecting customers at the local gym or over the Internet. We’ve heard stories of some dealers mixing this powder with horse urine, Armor All, or motor oil.

What the user winds up purchasing are not “real steroids”. They are counterfeit drugs that may make their muscles bigger, but are of unknown quality and may be mixed with some very dangerous substances.



Here is a photo taken in a real raw material “factory” overseas. The factory not only manufactures raw materials for anabolic steroids, but they also make raw materials for dietary supplements, too. This is not quite the kind of clean lab that we imagine when we think about real pharmaceuticals delivered via prescription by our family doctors. Conditions do not get much better when the powder is delivered to the local drug dealer here in the U.S. for final preparation for sale.

By the time these drugs are put into vials and wrapped with a professional-looking label created on the dealer's printer, it is almost impossible to tell the difference between these counterfeit drugs and the real thing. These types of steroids are now easy to obtain from sources at the local gym, school and even online.

Many assume that when you purchase illegal drugs like anabolic steroids, you're getting them from a drug dealer in a gym or on a dark street corner. But with today's technology, drug dealers have moved off the streets and into our homes by making these drugs accessible on the internet and social media sites. In 2019, Washington D.C.-based internet watch dog Digital Citizens Alliance released an eye-opening report called "Digital Platforms on Steroids: How Facebook and Google Enable the Sale of Illegal Appearance and Performance Enhancing Drugs" that outlines this topic. For more information, click the link:

https://www.digitalcitizensalliance.org/clientuploads/directory/Reports/DCA_Platforms_on_Steroids_Report-Final.pdf