

Medical Conditions Which May Mimic Drug Impairment

**There are Various Medical
Conditions and Injuries that may
Cause Individuals to Appear to be
Impaired by Alcohol and/or other
Drugs**

Medical Conditions

- ❖ **Head Trauma**
- ❖ **Stroke**
- ❖ **Diabetes**
- ❖ **Conjunctivitis**
- ❖ **Shock**
- ❖ **Multiple Sclerosis**
- ❖ **Cerebral Palsy**
- ❖ **Other Conditions**

Head Trauma

- ❖ **Disorientation**
- ❖ **Confusion**
- ❖ **Lack of Coordination**
- ❖ **Slowed Responses**
- ❖ **Speech Impairment**
- ❖ **Pupils May Be Noticeably Different Sizes or One Eyelid may Droop**
- ❖ **Eyes may not Track Together**



Stroke

- ❖ **Markedly Unequal Pupil Size**
 - **One Fixed and other Normal**
- ❖ **Paralysis or Weakness on One Side of the Body**
- ❖ **Slurred Speech**
- ❖ **Facial Droop**
- ❖ **Confused**
- ❖ **Frightened**



Diabetes

- ❖ **Confused or Non-Responsive**
- ❖ **Sweating Profusely**
- ❖ **Cold, Clammy Skin**
- ❖ **Rapid, Weak Pulse**
- ❖ **Elevated Blood Pressure**
- ❖ **May Require Immediate Medical Attention**
 - **Too Much Insulin (Low Blood Sugar)**

Conjunctivitis

“Pink Eye”

An Inflammation of the Mucous Membrane that Lines the Inner Surface of the Eyelids Giving a Red, Bloodshot Appearance of the Conjunctiva of the Eyes

Shock

- ❖ **Occurs When the Body is not Getting Enough Blood Flow**
- ❖ **Immediate Medical Attention**
 - **Cold, Clammy Skin**
 - **Weak, Lethargic and/or Uncoordinated**
 - **Rapid, Weak Pulse**
 - **Dazed and Non-Responsive**

Multiple Sclerosis

- ❖ **Degenerative Muscular Disorder**
- ❖ **May Lack Coordination**
- ❖ **Exhibit Gait Ataxia**
- ❖ **Tremors**
- ❖ **Slurred or Garbled Speech**
- ❖ **Usually Appear Alert and Responsive to Questions**



Cerebral Palsy

❖ Loss of Motor Control

- Awkward Gait & Poor Balance
- Impaired Coordination
- Grimacing or Drooling

❖ Involuntary, Jerky Movements

❖ Slow and/or Slurred Speech

Other Medical Conditions

- ❖ **Carbon Monoxide Poisoning**
- ❖ **Epilepsy (Seizures)**
- ❖ **Endocrine Disorders**
- ❖ **Neurological Disorders**
- ❖ **Psychiatric Disorders**
- ❖ **Infection**

Behavior Conditions

- ❖ **Exercise**
- ❖ **Excitement**
- ❖ **Fear**
- ❖ **Anxiety**
- ❖ **Depression**

Excited Delirium

- ❖ **Agitation**
- ❖ **Aggression**
- ❖ **Delirium**
- ❖ **Disorientation**
- ❖ **Elevated Body Temperature**
- ❖ **Hallucinations**
- ❖ **Pain Threshold Increase**
- ❖ **Superhuman Strength**

Excited Delirium

❖ Associations

- Drugs Alter Dopamine Processing
- Hyperthermia

❖ Sudden Death

- Cardiopulmonary Arrest