

101 TWO CASES OF INGESTION OF HAWAIIAN BABY WOOD ROSE (*ARGYREIA NERVOSA*)

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Objective: Different ergoline alkaloids such as ergine and isoergine are the constituents of *Argyreia nervosa*. Growing in southern California, Florida, and Hawaii the seeds of the plant are consumed by young people for sexual magic rites. We recorded two cases where the drug was ingested to gather recreational self-experiences. **Case reports:** **Case 1:** A 19-year-old man was admitted with visual hallucinations, anxiety, restlessness, and a diminished power of concentration 8 hours after ingestion of several small packages (about 4 seeds each). He reported the first symptoms 4-6 hours after ingestion. No other clinical signs occurred. Only moderate leukocytosis was observed in white blood cell count. A test for cannabis in urine was positive. Symptoms disappeared without therapeutic measures and the patient left the hospital well-being 24 hours after ingestion. **Case 2:** A 21-year-old man was admitted 5 hours after ingestion of 4 seeds with color-visual hallucinations, severe anxiety, and substantial change of self-image. He reported that symptoms started about 2 hours after ingestion. Blood pressure was increased transiently. No other symptoms were observed. Toxicological analysis was not performed. Under low-dose diazepam treatment all symptoms disappeared overnight. As it was known after these two events, both patients purchased the seeds in the same 'Head-Shop'. **Conclusion:** Ingestion of *Argyreia nervosa* seeds result in psychotic symptoms with a latency of several hours. Transient frightful hallucinations are the predominant clinical signs. The effects wear off without residual symptoms within one day. If at all, only symptomatic treatment is necessary.