Addiction—After using a drug, a person’s brain may change, causing the person to need the drug to feel normal. There are several components of addiction, including withdrawal, tolerance, and compulsive use.

Club drugs—Drugs that are associated with use at parties or bars. Ketamine, Rohypnol, GHB, and MDMA are often referred to as club drugs.

Dopamine [dope-uh-meen]—A neurotransmitter in the brain that carries messages about feelings of well-being and pleasure.

GHB—A depressant drug that slows down the functions of the body, including breathing, heart rate, memory loss, and loss of consciousness.

Ketamine [ket-uh-meen]—A drug that is used to numb the body during surgery. Abuse can cause loss of coordination, breathing problems, numbness, convulsions, and hallucinations.

Limbic system [lim-bik]—The part of the brain that is in charge of learning, memory, and emotion.

MDMA—A stimulant drug that is commonly known as “ecstasy.” It speeds up the functions of the body, resulting in increased blood pressure and body temperature.

Methamphetamine [meth-am-fet-uh-meen]—A very addictive stimulant drug that is often created in small, home-based labs.

MRI—A type of brain scan that shows the structure of the brain. MRI stands for Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

Neurons [noor-ons]—Cells in the brain.

PET—A type of brain scan that measures the activity in the brain. PET stands for Positron Emission Tomography.

Rohypnol [ro-hip-noll]—A depressant drug that slows down the functions of the body, resulting in memory loss, decreased blood pressure, feelings of sleepiness, and reduced motor control.