



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

What are Anabolic Steroids?

Anabolic steroids are chemicals that are similar to the male sex hormone **testosterone** and are often used to **enhance muscle size**.

While health care providers may prescribe anabolic steroids to treat various medical conditions, some **athletes** and **bodybuilders** misuse these drugs to boost performance or improve their physical appearance. Misuse can **damage various body organs** and may trigger **dependency** in users, particularly when taken in large doses.



How do Steroids affect the Brain?

Many of the effects of steroids are brought about through their actions in the **hypothalamus** and **limbic system** of the brain.

Since the **hypothalamus** has a major role in **maintaining normal hormone levels**, disrupting its normal functioning also disrupts the body's hormones.

Limbic lobe

Thalamus

- sensory perception
- motor functions



PREVIEW

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What are other health effects of anabolic steroids?

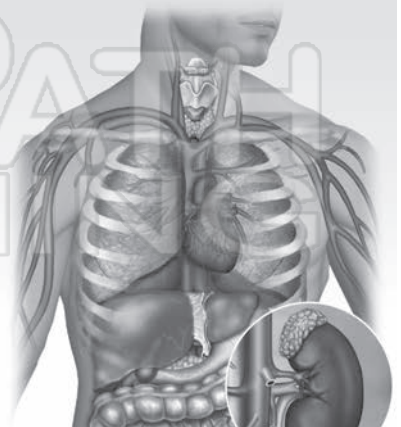
Short-Term Effects

- oily skin & acne
- fluid retention
- yellowing of skin
- stunts growth in teens



Long-Term Effects

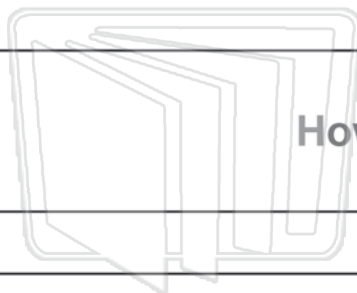
- kidney problems or failure
- liver damage & tumors
- enlarged heart
- high blood pressure
- changes in blood cholesterol
- increased risk of blood clots





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How do steroids affect the brain?

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List Short-Term Effects:

List Long-Term Effects:

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____