(U//FOUO) Recently the Manchester Police Department, Manchester Fire Department, and AMR EMS personnel have responded to an increasing number of overdoses associated with the synthetic drug commonly referred to as spice, but marketed under a number of different names. Spice is usually a mixture of herbs and spices and then sprayed with a chemical compound similar to THC, the psychoactive ingredient found in marijuana. It is usually smoked similar to marijuana in the form of joints or in a pipe. Some users have been known to ingest it in the form of a tea or infused in some other liquid.

(U//FOUO) The psychological effects include increased paranoia, panic attacks, anxiety, and hallucinations. The physiological effects include increased heart rate and increased blood pressure. Because the chemical composition of many products sold as spice is unknown, it’s likely that some varieties also contain substances that could have dramatically different effects than the user might expect. Beginning on Tuesday 11 Aug 2014, and continuing for a 24 hour period, the City of Manchester responded to over 20 medical calls after people ingested spice and experienced adverse effects including unresponsiveness and unconsciousness.

(U//FOUO) The spice substance involved in these incidents has been identified as “Bubblegum Smacked” spice and is packaged in pink colored packets with a green face depicted on the front (see photo). It is usually sold in convenience stores, gas stations, and head shops.

(U//FOUO) On 08/12/2014, Manchester Police Department seized 13 bags of “Bubblegum Smacked” spice along with 15 bags of “Lemon-Lime Smacked” spice and 14 bags of “Blueberry Smacked” spice from a local market.

(U//FOUO) Contact the Manchester Police Department, (603) 668-8711, for additional information.