



# Use of Tantum Rosa – Benzydamine Hydrochloride – as recreational drug in Romania

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# The analyses – data sources

## ROMANIA

- Sources: [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) or [www.google.ro](http://www.google.ro)
- Period: May – June 2008
- Type of data studied: blogs, forum





# Availability of Tantum Rosa

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## Tantum Rosa – availability in Romania

- Without medical prescription
- Boxes with 10 sachets, 500 mg benzydamine clorhydrate each
- Aprox. 1 euro/sachet



# Use of Tantum Rosa for psychoactive effects

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## ROMANIA

- Use: by ingestion
- Dosage “minimum 750 mg/ maximum 2000 mg (not recommended)”
- Active substance: benzydamine
- Main problem: the taste – very salty. It can cause vomiting; many suggestions were made (for instance to insert the substance into capsules or paper handkerchiefs)



# Effects as reported by users

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- Feeling of weight loss – sometimes (at higher doses) associated with the feeling of arm/leg loss
- Mild distortion of surrounding lights
- Half-dreaming status – “I was floating”. It seems that for this phase it is typical to experience a delay of images when looking at objects that are moving, similar to photos taken with a long exposure time



# Effects as reported by users

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- A phase of “spontaneous hallucinations” – “my visual field was trembling slightly at each step, similar to a footage taken by a video camera hold by somebody who is running”; “small details, letters, advertisements, all were alive and had an own movement”
- Following the phase of “spontaneous hallucinations” is a phase called “introspective” with a sub-phase of “collective hallucinations” – first the hallucinations were described as chaotic, latter controllable. In general, the hallucinations differ and very seldom can repeat themselves in separate experiences. The phase of collective hallucinations is characterized by all the participants sharing the same experience “we both raised our eyes and we followed the big bat above us until it suddenly disappeared”



# Effects as reported by users- the trip

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- It is described as appearing after 2...4 hours from the ingestion: High
- The most “colored” part; very often the body seems separated or divided – “I could feel the sounds flowing through me”; “it was cold but I did not really feel it, just that I was moving slower”; “while I was lying on the bed, my mind was running”
- The majority of the posts agree that this phase is the most heterogeneous, varying widely according to each one’s personality and mind



# The final phase

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- Slowly the feelings dim
- After 1 -2 hours, a minimum level is reached; no more trips are possible. The only feelings are short flash-backs and a kind of easiness
- Overall, these phases last for about 6...8 hours, with a possible slight revival in the next day
- Music seems to dramatically increase the effects; recommended music – psychedelic
- The memory seems to be able to trace up to 100% of these experiences; still, this figure decreases with the dose of Tantom ingested





# Harm reduction

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- Once the feelings become more intense, it is strongly advisable to return into your room
- It is a good idea to have a “sitter” (especially if you have different phobias)
- It is also advisable to try to memorize some basic rules (“it is only a dream”; “I am in my room”), to avoid dark/strange places
- DO NOT MIX IT WITH ALCOHOL!
- DO NOT MIX IT WITH OTHER HALLUCINOGENES!



Thank you for your attention.

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