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ARTS			BUSINESS
SPORTS			OPINION
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INSIDERS			TODAY'S PAPER
LOTTERY			OBITUARIES
GLOBE NORTH			GLOBE SOUTH
GLOBE WEST			TERROR AT THE MARATHON
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Boston-area colleges warn students about drug Molly

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

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Campus administrators, police, municipal leaders, and public health officials are warning college students in the Boston area about the dangers of the club drug Molly following of a string of overdoses and arrests related to the drug in recent weeks.

Molly, an illegal stimulant which is said to be a purer form of ecstasy or MDMA, has become increasingly popular around college campuses because the drug can deliver a quick, long-lasting high at a relatively low cost, according to substance abuse experts.

Spokesmen at Tufts University, Emerson College, the Berklee College of Music, and Boston University all say they have taken steps in recent days to caution and educate students about the drug.

In addition, the Boston Public Health Commission has launched an awareness campaign to target college campuses and music venues.

“As you may know, Boston has seen a recent surge in suspected overdoses associated with club drugs,” Barbara Ferrer, head of the health commission, wrote in a letter sent last week to college and university administrators. “As the semester begins and students return to Boston, we urge you to educate them about the dangers of using MDMA and other illicit drugs.”

Along with the letter, Ferrer sent campus leaders fact sheets about MDMA and other stimulants and about ways to prevent overdoses.

Nick Martin, a Health Commission spokesman, said the city is also distributing specially made posters to clubs and music venues. The posters say to avoid taking drugs, especially when mixed with alcohol, and to avoid leaving drinks unattended. The signs also list some tell-tale symptoms one might experience after taking too much of a drug.

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at mjrochele@gmail.com. Looking for more coverage of area colleges and universities? Go to our [Your Campus](#) pages.



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