

15-year-old Delta boy dies after suspected drug overdose

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Delta CP, Oyeniya. Photo: File

By Johnson Idowu

A 15-year-old boy, identified simply as Gift, has died from suspected complications arising from a drug overdose reportedly taken in an attempt to gain weight.

The Delta State Police Command Public Relations Officer, Bright Edafe, disclosed details of the incident in an interrogation video shared on X on Thursday.

According to him, the boy ingested multiple tablets of a drug identified as dexamethasone, which was allegedly given to him by his friend, Destiny Akpofure, who claimed it could make him gain weight.

He noted that Gift fell ill days after taking the medication and later died from the resulting complications.

Edafe wrote, “A very sad case of a 15-year-old who took sachets of dexamethasone tablets and swallowed several tablets at once.

“Asked why they were taking the drug, his friend, from whom he got it, said they were taking the drug to make them gain weight and eat more.

“The boy fell sick days later and was told by the suspect not to disclose that he had taken an overdose. He died four days later.”

Recounting events leading to the incident, Akpofure said he had obtained the drug from another friend at a party.

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Speaking in Pidgin English, he explained that Gift had asked about the purpose of the drug, and he told him it could make a person sleep, eat more, and gain weight.

He added that the deceased requested to see the drug.

Akpofure said he had earlier taken some of the tablets himself before handing them over.

He said, “I collected the drug from a friend at a party. I asked him to introduce me to a medicine that would make me gain weight, and he gave me the drug, saying it would make me eat, sleep, and get fat. I took four tablets.

“I was pressing my phone when my friend (Gift) asked to see the drug. He said he was not going to take it, but after a while, I saw him put many tablets in his mouth and chew them.

“I asked why he was taking it and told him that even if he wanted to take it, that was not the right way,” he said.

Meanwhile, Edefe said Gift eventually disclosed what he had taken on the fourth day when his condition worsened.

He warned against drug abuse and stated that Akpofure would be prosecuted in accordance with the law.

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