

This report was prepared for parents by Southwest Prevention & Education Services as a quick reference guide to marijuana. For additional information please view the other downloads on our website: www.southwestprevention.com.

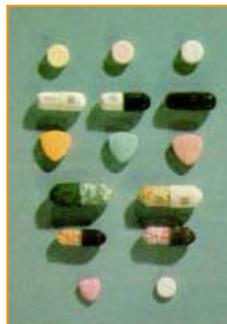
Facts:

- Methamphetamine (Meth) is a stimulate.
- Meth has a high potential of abuse and addiction due to the increase of dopamine, norepinephrine and serotonin in the brain.
- Meth is responsible for appx. 9% of all admissions to treatment facilities (TEDS Data – 2007).
- 83 % of the admissions were between the ages of 20-44 yrs of age.(TEDS Data – 2007)

Appearance:

Meth comes in various forms:

Regular meth is a pill or powder.



Crystal meth resembles glass fragments or shiny blue-white “rocks” of various sizes.



Another name for Meth is Crank. Crank comes in various colors.



Meth use among teens has dropped significantly in recent years, according to 2009 Monitoring the Future survey. The number of high-school seniors reporting past-year use is now only at 1.2 percent.

Rates of past-year meth use among persons aged 12 years or older

were the highest in the Western United States

1.6 percent

How Methamphetamine is Used/Abused:

- Usually snorted, swallowed, injected, or smoked in a glass pipe.
- As tolerance builds toward the drug, the users must intake more or change the methods of intake and frequency.
- On their high, meth users will consume the drug to stay up for days at a time. During this time they usually will not eat for fear of losing their high; this leads to paranoia, depression, and aggression in the user.

The Affects of Methamphetamine:

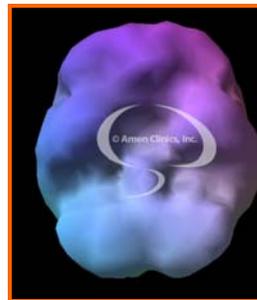
Meth is a highly addictive drug with potent central nervous system stimulant properties. The user will experience a rush or intense sensation when the drug is used.

The Brain

- The rush is a result from the release of high levels of the neurotransmitter dopamine into sections of the brain that regulate feelings of pleasure.
- Researchers have reported that as much as 50% of the dopamine-producing cells in the brain can be damaged after prolonged exposure to relatively low levels of meth.
- Serotonin-containing nerve cells may be damaged even more extensively with prolonged use.

Meth high side effects:

- Paranoia
- Anxiety
- Confusion
- Insomnia
- Aggression
- Delusions
- Loss of appetite
- Mood disturbances
- Suicidal thoughts
- Visual and auditory hallucinations



Normal Brain



Frequent Meth user

Brain SPECT Images taken from the Amen Clinic (www.amenclinic.com).

Affect on body

- Increase in blood pressure.
- Rapid breathing and heart rate.
- Irregular heartbeat.
- Hyperthermia (overheating)
- High doses can elevate body temperature to dangerous, sometimes lethal, levels as well as cause convulsions and even cardiovascular collapse and death.
- Anorexia
- Memory Loss
- Severe dental problems
- Chest Pain



This is a case of "meth mouth".

In the Southwest 5 counties of Utah, only 0.1% of High School Seniors has used Meth within the past 30-days.

In the past 6 years there has been no significant increase or decrease in meth abuse rates among teens in Southern Utah

Addictive Potential:

Long-term methamphetamine abuse can also lead to addiction—a chronic, relapsing disease, characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, and accompanied by chemical and molecular changes in the brain. Some of these changes persist long after methamphetamine abuse is stopped, and some reverse after sustained periods of abstinence (e.g., 2 years).

Signs & Symptoms of Use:

- Pupil dilation
- Respiratory disorders
- Impaired speech
- Dry or itchy skin
- Acne
- Sores
- Numbness
- Sweating
- Loss of appetite
- Dizziness
- Tooth grinding

Common Slang Terms:

- Batu
- Bikers Coffee
- Black Beauties
- Chalk
- Chicken Feed
- Crank
- Crystal
- Glass
- Go-fast
- Hiropon
- Ice
- Meth
- Methilies Quick
- Poor Man's
- Cocaine
- Shabu
- Shards
- Speed
- Stove Top
- Tina
- Trash
- Tweak
- Uppers
- Ventana
- Vidrio
- Yaba
- Yellow Barn

Paraphernalia:



Razor Blade used to cut up meth to snort



Meth Pipe



Light bulb used to smoke meth



Spoon used to inject Meth



Foil used to smoke meth



Various Methamphetamine Paraphernalia



Syringe