

What is Meth?

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Methamphetamine, commonly referred to as meth, is a powerful, highly addictive substance that affects the brain and body. It falls in the category of drugs known as stimulants. Methamphetamine is commonly sold in crystal or powder form. Other common names for methamphetamine include blue, crystal, ice, Tina, T, Christy/Kristy, crank, meth, and speed.

Methamphetamine is sometimes mixed with other substances. These include cannabis, opioids such as heroin or fentanyl, cocaine and ecstasy.

Source: drugabuse.gov

How is Methamphetamine different from other stimulants?

Stimulants increase the levels of dopamine in the brain. Dopamine is a chemical messenger, also known a neurotransmitter, that is released to send signals of pleasure. When drugs are abused, they release a flood of dopamine. This flood of dopamine causes a burst of euphoria, or "high". Different substances release different amounts of dopamine in the brain.

Both methamphetamine and cocaine increase the levels of dopamine in the brain, but methamphetamine is more addictive and remains in the brain longer. In fact, of all substances used recreationally - including cocaine, heroin, prescription opioids, stimulant effects on the brain and body.

What's in Methamphetamine?

The most common ingredient in meth can be found in over-the-counter cold medications. But methamphetamine made in illegal drug labs can also occasionally contain substances that appear in paint thinner, acetone (also found in nail polish remover), ammonia (also found in cleaning fluid), iodine crystals, red phosphorus (also in pesticides), and lithium (also found in batteries).

If you, a loved one, or someone you know needs treatment for methamphetamine, we can help! Call the Substance Abuse Service Helpline at 1(844) 804-7500 anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also go to the Online Provider Directory here.

<http://sapccis.ph.lacounty.gov/sbat>

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE HELPLINE



1.844.804.7500