

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION



Methamphetamine



DEA PHOTOS

What is Methamphetamine?

Methamphetamine is a highly addictive stimulant. It is available as a powdery substance as well as in pill form. Another version of the drug is referred to as "crystal meth." This type of methamphetamine is often smoked and resembles glass fragments or shiny blue-white "rocks."

Street names:

Crank, crystal, glass, ice, meth, shards, speed, tweak, ventana.

How is it used?

Methamphetamine is swallowed, snorted, injected, or smoked.

Effects on the mind

Chronic meth users can exhibit violent behavior, anxiety, confusion, insomnia, and psychotic features including paranoia, aggression, mood disturbances, and delusions.

Effects on the body

- Taking even small amounts of meth can result in decreased appetite, rapid breathing and heart rate, increased blood pressure, and hyperthermia.
- High doses can elevate body temperature to dangerous, sometimes lethal, levels, and cause convulsions and even cardiovascular collapse and death.

What is the legal status of methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is a Schedule II controlled substance. This means it has high potential for abuse, and is currently accepted medical use. As for its legitimate use, Desoxyn is the only medically prescribed methamphetamine-based drug. It is used to treat obesity and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

What are the effects of methamphetamine?

Increased energy, decreased appetite, rapid breathing, elevated heart rate, irregular heartbeat, and overheating. Long term use has been associated with irritability, anxiety, paranoia, and aggressive and violent behavior.

What is its origin?

Mexican drug trafficking organizations have become the primary manufacturers and distributors of methamphetamine to cities throughout the United States, including in Hawaii. Domestic clandestine laboratory operators also produce and distribute meth but usually on a smaller scale. The methods used depend on the availability of precursor chemicals.

Currently, this domestic clandestinely produced meth is mainly made with diverted products that contain pseudoephedrine. Mexican methamphetamine is made with different precursor chemicals. The Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act of 2005 requires retailers of non-prescription products containing pseudoephedrine, ephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine to place these products behind the counter or in a locked cabinet. Consumers must show identification and sign a logbook for each purchase.

Did you know?

In 2016, among 12th graders, 0.3 percent used meth in the past 30 days, and 0.4 percent used crystal meth (i.e., ice).

Source – 2017 Monitoring the Future Study

For drug prevention information, visit DEA's websites:

GetSmartAboutDrugs.com

For Parents, Caregivers, and Educators

JustThinkTwice.com

For Teens

CampusDrugPrevention.gov

For College Professionals

dea.gov

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