

Meth & Family

Mother and Baby:

- Meth use by the mother at any time during pregnancy can cause miscarriage, permanent damage to the baby's physical and mental development, premature delivery, and problems in the newborn baby.

- Meth may increase the chance of a baby dying from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

(Onis. 2013).

Children:

- Meth labs pose a significant threat to children. The products used to make methamphetamine and the by-products of the process are toxic and can poison children.

- Children can be exposed to meth products by putting something in their mouth, breathing it in, or even through absorption by crawling around on the floor.

(Bellemare. S., 2008)

- People using meth are often unstable emotionally and physically which may lead to abuse and neglect of their children.

(Altsbuler, S. J., & Cleverly-Thoinas. A, 2011).

Visit www.methproject.org for an interactive look at methamphetamine

Short Term Effects:

- Smoking and injection: intense rush of good feeling that lasts a few minutes. Called a "rush" or "flash".
- Snorting and swallowing: produces a high, but not as intense of a feeling as snorting.
- After the immediate rush of good feelings, other side effects occur soon after:
 - Agitation
 - Seizures
 - Aggression
 - Violent behavior
 - Anxiety/nervousness
 - Irregular heart beat or heart attack
 - Dangerously high body temperature

Long Term Effects:

- Highly addictive
- Tolerance to drug is developed quickly, meaning a person will need greater

amounts of Meth to produce the same feeling.

Other long term effects:

- Paranoia (overwhelming fear)
- Hallucinations (seeing things and hearing voices that are not there, believing bugs are crawling under the skin)
- Repetitive behaviors, such as scratching.
- Severe dental problems ("meth mouth" see above picture)
- Memory loss
- Strokes and death
- Sickness is common. Users are slow to heal (the immune system has been compromised)

(Methamphetamine . 2014).

Approximate Cost:

- Average cost for 1 oz is \$1,200-\$1,600
- ¼ gram – \$25-30 & ½ gram - \$50-60
- Daily costs vary depending on frequency of use. Heavily addicted users may spend up to \$400 a day and around \$5,000 – 6,000 a month.

(Southeast Missouri State University, 2014).



What is in Meth?

- **Acetone** - also found in nail polish remover and paint thinner.
- **Lithium** - also found in batteries
- **Toluene** - used in brake fluid
- **Hydrochloric Acid** - used to make plastic, it will eat flesh
- **Pseudoephedrine** - found in cold medicine. Too much can harm respiratory system, nervous system, and heart.
- **Red Phosphorous** - found on matchboxes, road flares and other explosives
- **Sodium Hydroxide (Lye)** - used in disposal of roadkill because it turns the bodies into coffee like liquid.
- **Sulfuric acid** - used in drain and toilet bowl cleaner
- **Anhydrous Ammonia** - also found in fertilizer

(Meth Project Foundation, Inc. 2014)

Treatment Facilities

Adams Memorial Hospital: Behavioral Health Resource Center

(260) 589-2442

1521 West Main Street
Berne, IN 46711

Memorial Hospital Inc: Behavioral Health Adams County

(260) 724-2145 ext. 3823

1100 Mercer Avenue
Decatur, IN 46733

Decatur Counseling Services:

Park Center Inc.

(866) 216-9669

809 High Street
Decatur, IN 46733

References

Altshuler, S. J., & Cleverly-Thomas, A. (2011). What do we know about drug-endangered children when they are first placed into care?. *Child Welfare, 90*(3), 45-68.

Bellemare, S. (2008). Dangers for children in the care of drug users. *CMAJ: Canadian Medical Association Journal, 179*(2), 164. doi:10.1503/cmaj.1080070

Methamphetamine (2014). Retrieved from: <http://www.drugfree.org/drug-guide/methamphetamine>

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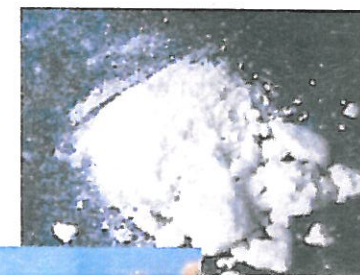
Otis. (2013). *Methamphetamine/dextroamphetamine in pregnancy*. Retrieved from: http://www.mohterbaby.org/files/Methamphetamine_6_13.pdf

Southeast Missouri State University. (2014). *Costs of meth*. Retrieved from http://www.semo.edu/criminaljustice/costs_of_meth.html

To earn 1 Baby Buck:
Handwrite a report that fills one
side of a notebook page.

METH

Crank	Glass
Tweak	Crystal
Chalk	Croak
Ice	Speed
Fire	Uppers



Jenn Sharrard
& Lauren Roth
Indiana Wesleyan University