

# “Crystal Meth” For Teens

It has many names: *Tina, Crank, Croak, Crypto, Crystal Ice, Fire, Glass, Meth, Tweek, White Cross.*  
No matter what you call it, it's still methamphetamine.

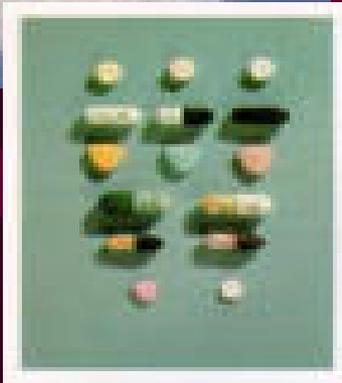
Tell us what you know  
about Crystal Meth



# What is Crystal Meth?

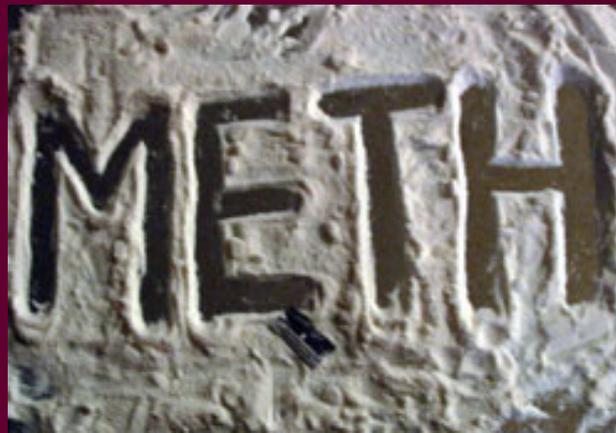
- Amphetamine or Methamphetamine?

Smoked  
Injected  
Snorted  
Swallowed



# Physical Effects (User)

- Increased body temperature
- Increased blood pressure
- Weight loss, malnutrition
- Increased heart rate
- Sweating
- Insomnia



# Physical Effects (User)

- Uncontrollable/involuntary body movements
- Shortness of breath
- Seizures
- Continuous/excessive dilation of pupils
- Damage to internal organs; lungs, liver, heart, brain
- Open dry sores, “Crank Bugs”
- “Meth Mouth”
- Severe Burns



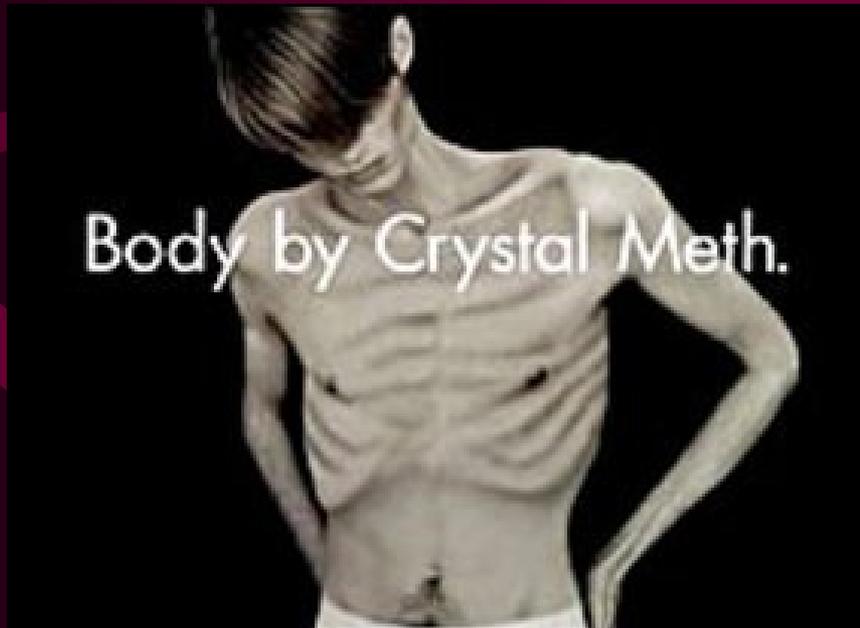
# *Crank Bugs:*

*The body's natural reaction is to try and eliminate the toxins. Users itch and scratch which causes the open sores.*





*The addict after and before the meth addiction*



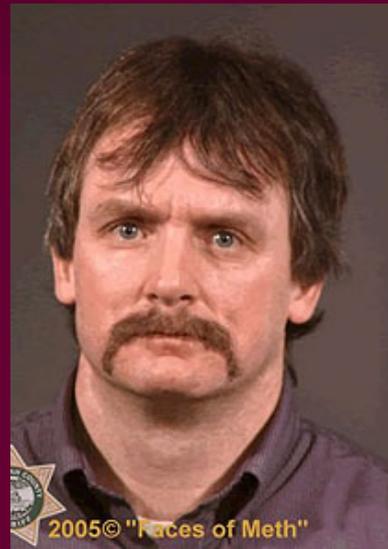


**2.5  
Years  
Later  
(Age 42)**



2005© "Faces of Meth"

1.5 Years



2005© "Faces of Meth"

3 months later



*“Meth Mouth”*

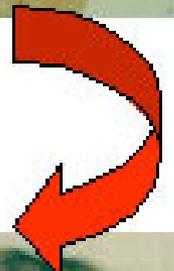


# Severe “Burns” or even “Death”





**10 Years of Meth Use**



# Short Term Effects

- Increased wakefulness, breathing, and heart rate
- Decreased appetite
- Dry mouth
- Overheating
- Tremors and Convulsions
- Depression as it wears off

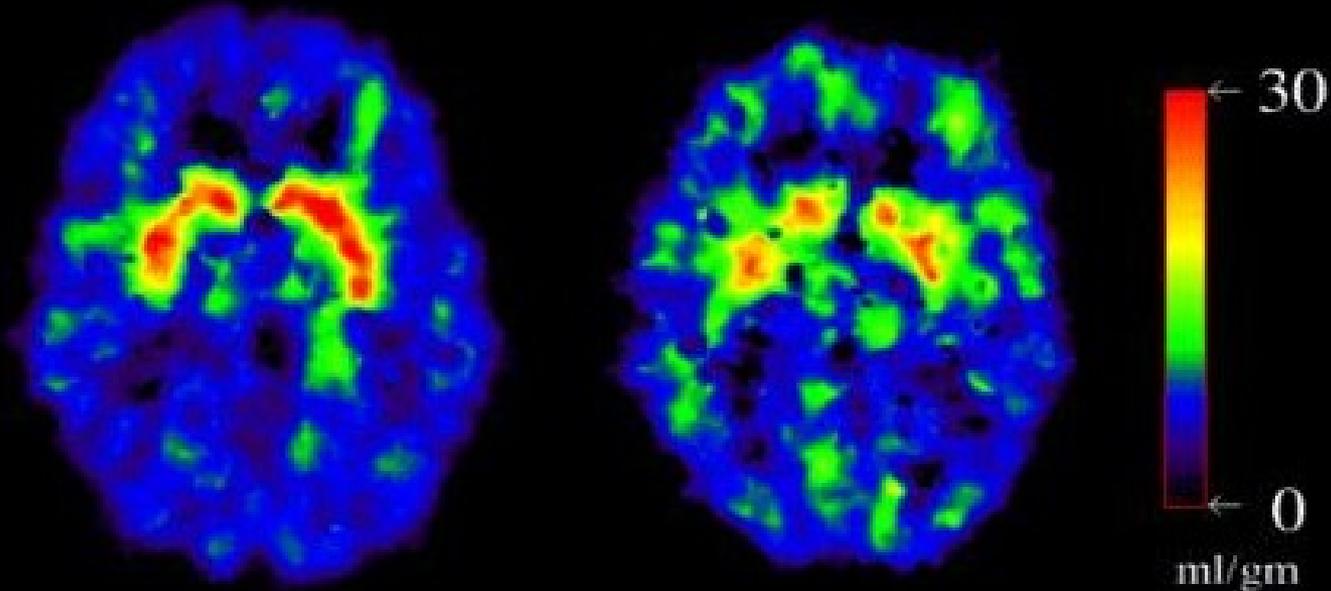
# Long-Term Effects

- Anxiety, confusion, and sleep problems
- Hallucinations and delusions
- Methamphetamine Psychosis
- Psychotic behavior
- Chronic depression
- Severe weight loss
- Brain damage



# Brain Damage?

## Loss of Dopamine Neurons After Heavy Methamphetamine Use



**Comparison Subject**

**METH Abuser**

*Source: Volkow, N.D. et al., Am J. Psychiatry, 158(3), pp. 377-382, 2001.*

Brain damage can result from using Crystal Meth. Researchers have reported that as much as 50% of the dopamine producing cells in the brain can be damaged after prolonged exposure to even small amounts of meth.

# *“Poor Man’s Cocaine*”

- Components Readily available
- Mom and Pop “METH LABS”-  
suburban/urban/rural environments
- Easy to Make
- Cheap to make
- Cost 10% of finished  
product just to make it
- Sells for same price as  
cocaine



# Where are these *Meth Labs*?

- ★ Houses
- ★ Mobile Homes
- ★ Businesses
- ★ Apartments
- ★ Hotels, Motels
- ★ Garages
- ★ Pole Barns, Sheds
- ★ Storage Facilities
- ★ Cars, Semi-trailers
- ★ Fields, Parking Lots
- ★ Remote Locations



# Commonly Found Chemicals

- Pseudoephedrine Tablets (Mini-Thins, Sudafed, etc.)
- Starter Fluid (Ether)
- Denatured Alcohol
- Heet (Methanol)
- Drano, Red Devil Lye
- Anhydrous Ammonia
- Red Phosphorous, toluol, paint thinner
- Sulfuric Acid (Battery Acid)/ Muriatic Acid
- Freon, Hydrogen Chloride Gas, Acetone

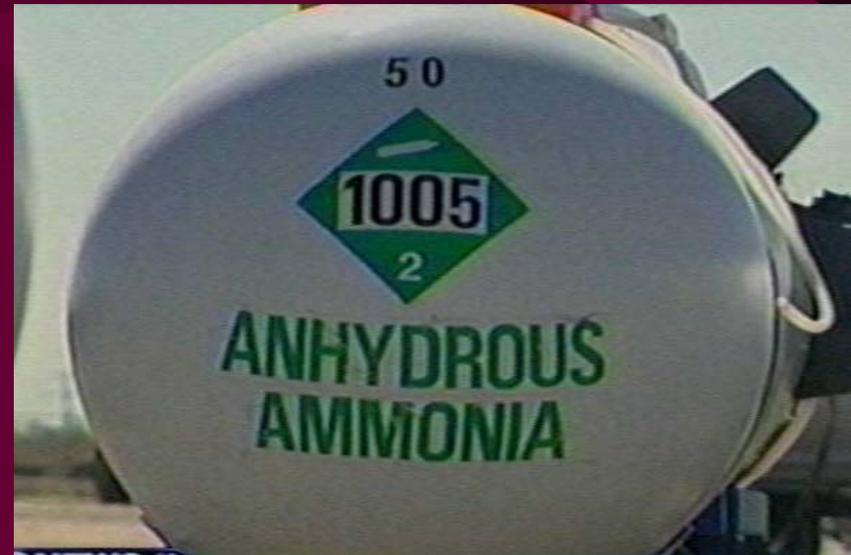


# Detrimental Affects of these Chemicals

The concern is that these chemicals can and will:

- ★ React to Air
- ★ React to Water
- ★ React to Shock Movement
- ★ React to Each Other
- ★ Attack Eyes, Lungs, Kidneys
- ★ Burn Skin
- ★ Kill you

House Explosions are not  
Uncommon!



# What to do if you encounter a Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratory

- **DO NOT** touch anything in the lab.
- **DO NOT** turn on any electrical power switches or light switches.
- **DO NOT** turn off any electrical power switches or light switches.
- **DO NOT** eat or drink in or around a lab.
- **DO NOT** open or move containers with chemicals or suspected chemicals.
- **DO NOT** smoke anywhere near a lab.
- **DO NOT** sniff any containers.
- **DO** decontaminate yourself and your clothing.
- **DO** wash your hands and face thoroughly.
- **DO** call your local authorities or DEA district office

## Environmental Harm:

For each pound of meth produced, five to six pounds of hazardous waste are generated, posing immediate and long-term environmental health risks. The chemicals used to make meth are toxic, and the lab operators routinely dump waste into streams, rivers, fields, backyards and sewage systems, which can in turn contaminate water resources for humans and animals.

Cleaning up these sites requires specialized training and costs an average of \$2,000-\$4,000 per site in funds that property owners are often held liable, for the cost of the cleanup.

For every one pound of meth,  
six pounds of waste is created.



## **Puts Children at Risk:**

Hundreds of children are neglected every year after living with parents who are meth "cooks." Children who reside in or near meth labs are at a great risk of being harmed in such a toxic environment, due to the noxious fumes which can cause brain damage and the explosive elements that go into making the drug. Cooking meth is extremely dangerous, and labs often catch on fire and explode.

A child living inside could overdose from meth left out by parents, suffer from attachment disorders or behavioral problems, be malnourished, physically or sexually abused and/or burned or fatally injured from a fire or explosion.

# Meth why risk it?

growing old  
with meth

*Is the  
Romance  
gone?*



the **F**irst  
**H**igh

kiss your future  
goodbye



extreme neighborhood  
**Makeover** meth  
hits town 

**BREAKING UP**  
meth treatment  
and you

