



## METHAMPHETAMINE

Methylamphetamine (commonly referred to as methamphetamine) is a stimulant commonly used in America. Like cocaine, it affects the brain and body. It can be smoked or injected, and due to its strength and long-lasting effects, is extremely addictive.

**Slang:** Street names for drugs can vary. Ice, glass, Meth, yaba.

### Appearance and use

'Meth' is produced in tablet, powder, or crystalline forms when bought illegally. You can swallow, snort or inject, and it can also be smoked (unlike amphetamines). These products are taken orally, snorted or injected but, unlike amphetamine, methylamphetamine can also be smoked when crystallised - often referred to as 'ice'.

### The effects

- Meth will make you feel exhilarated and excited; it also wakes you up and suppresses your appetite.
- Smoking 'ice' makes the effects more intense, similar to those experienced with crack cocaine, but the effects of 'ice' last longer.
- Extended use can lead to psychological and physical dependence and injecting meth can be extremely addictive.

### The law

Methamphetamine is a Class A drug. It is illegal to have, give away or sell. You can get up to 7 years for possession and up to 14 years for you and those you sell it to, for supply.

### Cost

A half a gram of crystal meth is £25 and £15 for one hit on the street.

### The risks

- Meth causes your heart rate to increase and a rise in blood pressure.
- You can also experience becoming agitated, violent, aggressive and paranoid.
- In America, Meth use is prevalent and Methylamphetamine-induced psychosis has been widely reported where individuals lose sense of reality.
- If injecting Meth, you run the risk of contracting HIV/AIDs and Hepatitis if sharing needles, as well as all of the other risks e.g. Deep Vein Thrombosis.