



Why you should "kNOw METH"

<p><u>Over All Key Message</u> Meth is a highly addictive stimulant that's impacting communities across WI</p>	<p><u>Key Message (Societal Impact)</u> Meth impacts more than the person who is abusing it</p>	<p><u>Key Message (What you can do)</u> Pay attention – look for signs of addiction, use and trafficking</p>
<p>What is it White odorless bitter crystalline powder that when ingested (dissolved, snorted, injected, smoked) that affects the brain's pleasure centers creating a rush.</p>	<p>Children Neglected and at great risk! Children are left to fend for themselves. (Malnutrition, physical/sexual abuse, attachment/behavioral disorders, accidental ingestions, burns or death from cooking explosions) Insert Local Data As Available</p>	<p>What to look for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burn marks on fingers or mouth • Obsessively picking at hair or skin • Changes in physical appearance • Borrowing money often, stealing or selling items • Strange sleep patterns • Psychotic behavior • Excessive Sweating • Unhealthy weight loss • Twitching, facial tics, animated or exaggerated mannerisms • Possession of drug paraphernalia such as glass pipes, burnt spoons, cutoff straws or needles
<p>Who's Using Addiction does not discriminate! Methamphetamine addiction crosses all genders, races, classes, ages, neighborhoods and life experiences.</p>	<p>Crime To use, produce or deal meth may lead to increases in thefts, burglaries, homicides, or other criminal activity Insert Local Data As Available</p>	<p>Report drug activity If you see something, say something – work with law enforcement to report possible drug activity. Insert Local Contact Information (dispatch, Crime Stoppers, etc) Available <i>Soundbite: They can't stop what they don't know!</i></p>



How does Meth impact user

Caution: Meth users may become violent without provocation, or even suicidal, other effects include:

Short Term Effects

- Wakefulness (not eat/sleep for days)
- Increased energy (risky behaviors)
- Increased breathing, heart rate and BP
- Irregular heart rate
- Increased body temp
- Chemical burns

Long Term Effects

- Extreme weight loss
- Severe dental "meth mouth"
- Anxiety/mood
- Insomnia
- Violent or psychotic behavior – Paranoia, hallucinations or delusions
- Permanent brain damage
- Lowered inhibitions = increase in risky behaviors leading to disease, pregnancy or injury

Environment

Discarded needles or manufacturing equipment causes a significant health risk!

Meth is frequently produced or cooked in homemade labs. Vapors can remain making these locations toxic. **For each pound of meth produced, it creates 5-6 pounds of hazardous waste.**

Insert Local Data As Available

Get Involved!

Members of the Northwoods Coalition have joined local and regional resources to form a "meth task force" - For more information visit:

www.northwoodscoalition.org

Insert Local Coalition Information As Available