

SPEED

CRYSTAL METH

WHAT IS SPEED?

- Speed (amphetamine or meth-amphetamine) is a stimulant drug.
- It produces alertness, confidence and raises levels of energy and stamina.
- It reduces appetite and lessens the desire and ability to sleep.

IS SPEED ADDICTIVE?

- Regular use can produce a need to increase the dose to get the same effect, and can lead to physical dependence on the drug.
- Speed can produce a powerful craving for more of the drug.
- Long-term use can result in serious mental and physical problems.

HOW IS SPEED USED?

- Speed can be swallowed, snorted, smoked, or injected.
- Swallowing is the safest method of using speed. The effects come on gradually and last longer than with other methods.
- Snorting speed takes effect faster than swallowing but it can damage the nose.
- Smoking speed takes effect immediately and can more easily lead to addiction.
- Injecting is the riskiest method of using speed.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF INJECTING?

- The dose reaches the brain almost immediately, increasing the possibility of overdose.
- Impurities are introduced directly into the bloodstream and can cause septicemia and other infections.

- Repeated injections damage the veins, leading to thrombosis and abscesses.
- Sharing syringes can cause hepatitis and HIV, the virus that can cause AIDS.
- Clean needles are available from needle exchange programs.

BE CAREFUL

- The 'comedown' off speed can make you feel tired, lethargic and depressed. This may tempt users to take more, and can lead to dependency.
- Speed users are at higher HIV and Hepatitis risk through unsafe sex and needle sharing.
- Although rare, speed can cause seizures, heart attacks, strokes, and death from overdose.
- Many users become physically run down, which leaves them susceptible to a wide range of illnesses.
- Extended use of speed can cause psychosis. The user may think that everybody is out to get them, or that they are being followed or watched.
- Mixing speed with other drugs, particularly other stimulants, can increase the risk of adverse reactions.
- Speed is illegal. Possession can result in long prison terms.

DanceSafe.

Promoting Health and Safety within the Rave and Nightclub Community

