# METH & SYPHILIS



#### **WHAT IS METH?**

Methamphetamine (meth) is a highly addictive stimulant created in an underground lab using toxic ingredients. It can be swallowed, snorted, injected, or smoked.

## WHAT ARE THE COMMON STREET NAMES?

Batu, Bikers Coffee, Black Beauties, Chalk, Chicken Feed, Crank, Crystal, Glass, Go-Fast, Hiropon, Ice, Meth, Methlies Quick, Poor Man's Cocaine, Shabu, Shards, Speed, Stove Top, Tina, Trash, Tweak, Uppers, Ventana, Vidrio, Yaba, and Yellow Bam



## WHY DO PEOPLE START USING METH?

- Mood altering: people use meth for the powerful high, ability to stay awake to study and to have a good time. People with depression use it in attempt to feel better.
- Increased productivity: people turn to the drug for its hyperactivity effect.
- Appetite suppressant: people who want to be thin use meth to reduce their appetite.

#### WHY DO PEOPLE CONTINUE TO USE METH?

- Meth is at least as addictive as heroin.
- Meth triggers dependency faster than almost all other illegal drugs.
- It's three times as powerful as cocaine and it is among the hardest drugs to permanently quit.
- People can become addicted even after only one or two uses.

## HOW IS METH AND SYPHILIS RELATED?

- Methamphetamine increases risk-taking behaviors.
- Including sexual risk
  behaviors: having multiple
  partners, inconsistent
  condom use, and exchanging
  sex for money or drugs.
- Babies are born with the disease after contracting it from their mother.



## WHAT EFFECT DOES SYPHILIS HAVE ON YOUR BODY?



Among adults, the first symptom of syphilis is a sore or ulcer at the site of infection. If undetected, it can develop into flu-like symptoms and a rash all over the body, including the palms and soles of the feet. Untreated babies with syphilis can go blind, be developmentally delayed, or even die.

#### **HOW BIG IS THE PROBLEM?**

- In 2018, 1.9 million people reported using meth in the last year.
- 1 million people reported using meth in the last month.
- California has the secondhighest syphilis rates in the country.



#### WHERE CAN I GO FOR HELP?



ADS Adult System of Care: (916) 874-9754 Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm Assessments are done on a walk-in basis.