Drug Awareness and Recognition

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Definition of addiction

- 1: the quality or state of being addicted
  addiction to reading

- 2: compulsive need for and use of a habit-forming substance (such as heroin, nicotine, or alcohol) characterized by tolerance and by well-defined physiological symptoms upon withdrawal; broadly: persistent compulsive use of a substance known by the user to be harmful
Pharmacology

Three main neurotransmitters are affected by these drugs; norepinephrine, dopamine, and serotonin. Increased concentrations of these transmitters in the neuronal synapse occur via increased release from vesicles through direct stimulation, blockade of pre-synaptic uptake and storage, reduced monoamine oxidase activity, and indirect glutamate pathway stimulation. Modification of the chemical structure can result in a dramatically altered pharmacologic profile. Methyl substitutions at the alpha carbon of the phenylethylamine structure result in strong stimulant, cardiovascular, and anorectic properties.
English Please!!!!

All of these categories of drugs alter the senses by either slowing or stimulating concentrations of norepinephrine, dopamine, and serotonin in the neuronal synapse.
Effects

- Tachycardia
- Hypertension
- Agitation
- Seizures
- Pupil constriction or dilation
- Hallucinations
- Fast Pulse, Jittery?
- High Blood pressure Red Faced?
- Edgy, mood swings?
- Not just typical Colonic Tonic, but focal motor as well
Ketamine

- Dissociative anesthetic use in the veterinary practice.
- Distorts perceptions and produces feelings of detachment from self and environment.
- Low dose; short attention, and impaired memory
- Higher dose; dreamlike states, delirium, and hallucinations.
- Diminished fear anxiety insecurity.
- Stimulation hyperactivity (uncontrollable urge to dance)
- Euphoria, arousal, mild psychedelica.
- Currently under study for PTSD, although not approved yet.
- Users often possess “Pacifiers” ????
- Often mixed with other drugs:
- Users utilize Menthol products for cooling sensation while using the drug including: Vapor Rub, NyQuil, and lozenges.
So... what about the Bath Salts?

- They Are NOT Bath Salts!
- Not Glass Cleaner or Plant Food!
- They are marketed as such so they can be sold over the counter.
- They are synthetic stimulants MDVP, (methylenedioxypyrovalerone) Mephedrone, or Methylone. (so far, they change the chemical compounds daily to keep the drug legal)
- Marked as “Not for human consumption“
Names Anyone?

- Ivory Wave
- Vanilla Sky
- Bliss
- Legal
- Legal Cocaine
- Cloud 9
- White Dove
DMAA (Geranium Extract)
Methylhexanamine
dimethylamylamine

- Natural CNS stimulant synthesized in 1944
- Geranomine used in fitness supplements and weight loss products
- Snorted like bath salts same psychotic symptoms
Why?

Euphoric effect similar to Amphetamines or Cocaine

No test available to pick up use ( abuse )

Easy to attain can be bought over the counter depending on what it is Marketed as.
What are the effects?

**Effects**
- Euphoria
- Agitation
- Paranoia
- Hallucinations
- Suicidal Thoughts
- Psychosis

**Side Effects**
- Tachycardia (fast pulse)
- High Blood Pressure
- Chest Pain
- Stroke
- Heart Attack
- Ongoing Suicidal thoughts, sometimes for weeks!
Synthetic Marijuana

- Spice
- K2
- Legal Weed
- Incense
- Potpourri

It is interesting to note synthetic marijuana contains NO THC
MR. HAPPY

POTPOURRI

BLUEBERRY
POTPOURRI

This product does not contain any prohibited ingredients.
Must be 18 years of age to purchase.

Not for human consumption.

Distributed by S&S Wholesalers
www.buy-herbal-incense.com
Effects... Depends on what type of “Weed”

- Tremors
- Vomiting
- Described as a near death experience
- Paranoia & Agitation
- Panic Attacks
- Inability to concentrate
- Shaking similar to Parkinson's Disease
- Chemicals “sprayed” on cause nausea.
- Here it is again... WHY...
- Often see horrific hallucinations. Often causing harm to themselves or others.
So, What's a Meth Lab???
Home Lab?
Smaller than you think
Methamphetamine

- Crank, Meth, Rush,
- Highly Addictive, first time users often have withdrawal symptoms prompting repeat usage.
- Intense rush, hyper stimulation of senses, Hyper-sexuality.
- Releases Dopamine causing intense rush, over time destroys Dopamine receptors making it impossible to feel pleasure.
- Chronic abuse leads to paranoia anxiety, extreme aggression, hallucinations and delusions.
Recognition

- Early signs
  Acne appears
  Sores not healing (small sores appear due to obsessive skin picking brought on by the hallucination of bugs crawling beneath the skin).
  Skin losses luster and elasticity
  Weight loss

May smell of ammonia, cat urine, or rotten eggs from manufacturing process.

- Late sighs
  Drastic change in physical appearance making person look much older.
  Meth-Mouth: broken discolored and rotting teeth. Users grind there teeth obsessively and binge on sugary foods for energy. Obsession for drug consumes person often leading to neglect of personal hygiene.
  Most do not recognize changes as they still feel confident and attractive.
Faces of Meth
THE HORRORS OF METHAMPHETAMINES

1. **Skin issues**
   Appearance or worsens. Obsessive skin picking often causes meth users’ faces to be marred by small sores and scarring - the result of a common sensory hallucination of crawling beneath the skin.

2. **Musculature and Fat**
   Muscles and fat are rapidly depleted and can lead to undernourishment and weight loss. Over time, the body begins consuming muscle tissue for energy, depleting the body of fat, giving users a gaunt, hollowed-out appearance.

3. **Mouth and Gums**
   Meth mouth is caused by several factors: gum and dental problems, including decay, are common, and the blood vessels in the mouth can shrink, reducing the rate of decay, the production of saliva, and the ability to heal. Over time, the mouth, cravings for sweet foods increases with meth use, oral hygiene is typically neglected while high, and tooth grinding is an additional side effect of the drug.

4. **Faster Estimated Age**
   A combination of skin issues, facial fat loss, and weight loss, hygiene neglect and increased decay lead to the appearance of accelerated aging, sometimes shockingly.

**Methamphetamine Users**

Addiction touches nearly every family, ravaging physical and mental health, relationships, and personal finances. Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, daughters and sons. No one is immune to the frightening long-term impact of hard drug abuse. What follows is a sobering depiction of REAL individuals who’ve fallen victim to the temptation of drug use - in this case, Methamphetamine - whose devastating effects are all too apparent.
Dangers of Meth

- Hyperthermia (high temperature) Stroke
- Formication (sensation of flesh crawling)
- Rhabdomyolysis (breakdown of muscle) leading to kidney damage.
- Cardiac arrest (tachycardia) (hypertension)
So... Why is meth so popular???

- Cheap!
- Ease of manufacturing (labs can be set up anywhere, even in cars)
- Easy to get ingredients red, white & blue method
- Red – phosphorous (road flairs)
- White – ephedrine, pseudoephedrine (allergy medicine)
- Blue – Iodine
- “one pot method” a couple of pseudoephedrine tablets, a 2 liter bottle and approximately 30-45 minutes.
- When discovered labs are classified as a hazardous material scene, and cost Big $$$ to clean up.
Simple To Manufacture
Easy to find ingredients
Portable
Really Portable...
The Opiate Family
Heroin??
Really??

- Snorted, Smoked, or injected.
- Recent up swing in usage especially in more affluent neighborhoods. (my kids a what?)
- Most addictive drug available (23% of users become dependent). Withdrawal symptoms begin 4-6 hours after last use and can last for weeks or months.
- Can be the 1st or last drug for a habitual user.
How does Heroin work?

- Binds to the opiate receptors in the brain converting it to morphine, especially those involved in perception of pain & reward.
- IV users report a “rush” (surge of euphoria), dry mouth, heavy extremities, “cloudiness” of mind. User then goes “under the nod” periods of drowsy and wakeful states. Pinpoint pupils
- All users risk respiratory depression, as heroin (and all opiates) suppresses respiration.
What to look for...

Drug use clues

Drug Kit

“Packaged” Drugs (Heroin)
Kicking the heroin habit…
Kind of …

- Methadone - used for 30 years, most effective, also most addictive. 1 Drug problem precipitates another…
- Buprenorphine - less risk for overdose, and fewer withdrawal effects. Not as strong addict more likely to relapse.
- Naltrexone – blocks opiate receptors, rendering drug useless. For use after withdrawal treatment.
100X Stronger than Morphine

AMERICA’S HEROIN EPIDEMIC IS BEING OVERTAKEN BY ANOTHER DEADLY DRUG ADDICTION: FENTANYL
100X Stronger than Fentanyl
Marijuana
Cannabis
Tetrahydrocannabinol

- Pot, weed, hemp, Chronic....
- Used in the treatment of Glaucoma (yeh right)
- Also cancer treatment
- Most frequently abused drug statistically
Effects of THC

- Bronchodilator
- Dilated Blood vessels
- Release’s Dopamine
- Dry mouth
- Intense Hunger / thirst
- After Euphoria passes may feel sleepy or depressed

- Breathing deepens
- Bloodshot Eyes??
- Producing Euphoria
- Munchies…
- Anxiety or Panic
Stripping (Butane Oil)
Benzodiazepines

- Xanax
- Klonopin
- Ativan
Huffing

- Inhaling seemingly mundane products...
- Precursor to future Drug abuse!!!
- Dust Off… computer cleaner #1 abused
- White Out… bet ya have a bottle in your desk…
- 2nd stage huffing paint (gold is preferred)
- Glue, thinners, gasoline.
- Whippets… Whip-Hits
Abused Inhalants

- Solvents: Thinners, gasoline, contact cleaner, felt tip markers, correction fluid.
- Aerosols: Hair, Deodorant sprays, Spray Paints, Computer Cleaner
How do they work?

_Most_ work by displacing air in the lungs; inhalants deprive the body of oxygen, causing a condition known as Hypoxia. The lack of oxygen can damage cells; brain cells are especially sensitive to oxygen deprivation.
Adolescents
12-15 most common abused inhalants are:
Glue, Shoe polish, Spray Paints, Lighter Fluid & Gasoline

Teens
16-17 most common abused inhalants are:
Whip-Hits, and Nitrous Oxide.

Nitrites are more likely to be abused by adults.
Signs & Symptoms

- Unusual odors from individual
- Seeming distracted from current activities
- Not staying focused
- Tremors
- Dilated Pupils
- Cuts around mouth
- Cyanosis (blue or pale lips, discolored nailbeds)
- Colors on face naires “metal flakes”
High Dose Benadryl?

**LIFE with ALLERGIES: BENADRYL**

I feel a bit of a tickle in my sinuses. I'd best to take a **BENADRYL** lest my allergies become worse.

Because you can't sneeze when you're in a coma.
Syrup/"Purple Drank"

- Prescription cough syrup with promethazine and codine.
- Dextromethorphan OTC cough medicine, (large dose) can cause effects similar to Ketamine.
- Easy to get, easily overlooked by parents.
EXUBERANCE POWDER

LAB CERTIFIED!

AMPED

Never lets you down!

.5g

LADYBUG ATTRACTANT
SOOO.....

What’s Next ???
We Don’t Really know...