# Stimulants – Methamphetamine



## **Stimulants**

- Stimulants speed up (or "stimulate") the brain
- Increase the release of the rewarding neurotransmitter, dopamine causing euphoria
- General effects of stimulants include: attention, alertness, increased heart rate and blood pressure, movement, attention, and overall arousal
- Examples of stimulants include: cocaine, amphetamines, adderall, MDMA, caffeine, nicotine and methamphetamine.



## What is Meth?

- Methamphetamine is an illegal stimulant (schedule II)
- Extremely high abuse potential while still having medical uses for narcolepsy and ADHD
- Common sentences for possession without a medical prescription begin at a minimum of five years in prison with much harsher sentences for manufacturing and selling
- Short-term effects include:
  - loss of hunger, increased heart rate, increased blood pressure, increased temperature, and seizures
- Long-term effects include:
  o depression, paranoia, insomnia and meth mouth



#### Where to Find More Information

# Stimulants

- Stimulant Fact Sheets
- http://www.drugfreeworld.org/drug facts/prescription/stimulants.html
- http://www.justice.gov/dea/druginf o/drug\_data\_sheets/Stimulants.pdf

# Methamphetamine

- Treatment & Self-Help:
- http://meth.uclasarx.org/
- http://www.livingsober.com/metha mphetamine/

