



## AMPHETAMINES

Amphetamines are actually medicines used by doctors to treat many physical and mental disorders. But abusers have no medical reason to take amphetamines. They become over-stimulated and their bodies pay the price.

### DRUG ID

**Looks:** Tablets or capsules; “underground” copies of drugs may be yellowish powder

**Street Names:** Speed, uppers, cross-tops, bennies, pep pills

**Methods of Use:** Swallowed

**Actions:** Amphetamines are stimulants, which means that they excite the brain (central nervous system).

**Warning Signs:** People using amphetamines are excessively alert. They often talk a lot. They keep busy all of the time. They never seem to eat or sleep.

Amphetamines are also strongly addictive. Amphetamine abusers often isolate themselves from others. Eventually, they run out of money for drugs. Then they will do anything to get more. Guilty feelings for bad behavior don't exist in amphetamine abusers.

### THE NUMBERS

Amphetamine abuse led to 18,555 emergency room visits last year.

16.2% of 12th graders have used amphetamines without a prescription at least once; 5.6% abuse them regularly.

- Faster heart rate
- Sleeplessness
- Weight loss
- Irritability and mood swings
- Heavy sweating
- Cramps and shakes



USING OVER TIME

- Addiction
- Paranoia
- Heart problems
- Withdrawal (depression, fatigue, nightmares, constant sleeping, difficulty thinking)
- Psychosis
- Hallucinations

WAY TO GO

Lack of sleep, poor nutrition, and the toxic effects of amphetamines destroy users' health. Amphetamines destroy relationships. School and work performance suffer. Maintain a safe speed to life. Don't use amphetamines.

GOPY