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METHAMPHETAMINE PREVENTION BROUGHT TO YOU
BY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY RESOURCES

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#TRENDING: POTENCY OF METH IS ON THE RISE



Over 10,000 Iowans were treated for meth-use disorders in 2018.”

According to study conducted by High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), meth continues to be popular and readily available and at a cheap price in the Midwest Area. In 2017, HIDTA reported seizing 4,438 pounds of meth. Part of the HIDTA study focused on Iowa alone and identified that methamphetamine in Iowa is mostly brought in by the Sinoloa cartel, Cartel Jalisco Nueva Generacion. After the study was completed one fact stood out was the increased amounts of meth that were being transported in liquid form then converted to crystal meth that resulted in that the purity of the drug could be in excess of 99%. (HIDTA, 2018, p. 19)

With meth being more pure, it can result in more deadly results for the user. The National Institute of Drug Abuse identified that people can easily overdose on meth resulting with in strokes, heart attacks and other organ failure that are caused by the increase in heart trying to pump more blood through the system or even in the body overheating.

On May 21st, 2005, Iowa's Sudafed Control Law went into effect. This law restricted the amount of Sudafed that person could legally purchase in the state of Iowa to a person being 18 years of age and older, that they must show a government issued ID, that the Sudafed be purchased through a pharmacy where the pharmacist logs and maintains purchases and the purchaser is not allowed to purchase more than 7.5 milligrams in a 30 day period. (Senate File, May, 2005)

The purpose of this law was to curb the number of meth labs in Iowa and hopefully impact the use of methamphetamine as well. As a result the number of meth labs in Iowa dramatically decreased in Iowa, but the demand for the drug was still there. On November 8, 2018, the Des Moines Register quoted Doug Woolery as saying "A lot of Iowans don't realize the magnitude, that it "meth) remains a significant issue," said Dale Woolery, interim of the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy. "We're wanting to remind Iowans it remains an issue." He further states that "Psychostimulant-related deaths, largely due to meth, nearly doubled from 49 deaths in 2013 to 96 deaths in 2017, according to the study.

**IOWA
ALERT:**
From 2014-
2017, there was
a 38% increase
in
**methampheta-
mine treatment
admissions**

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METH AND WWII



Methamphetamine is a drug that triggers an adrenaline response in the body which will heighten alertness and the willingness to take greater risks. Methamphetamine is a drug that has been around for many years, but many don't realize how heavily the drug was been used throughout history. Methamphetamine was originally developed from the extract of the ephedra plant by a Japanese chemist in 1893.

The process was then streamlined by a different Japanese chemist in Germany in 1919 resulting in the world's first crystal meth (Editors, 2017).

The introduction of meth into World War II came with soldiers being issued stimulants to keep them awake during long campaigns to ward off tiredness.

METH AND WWII CONTINUED

Soldiers on both sides of the war used forms of stimulants to keep them awake.

Benzedrine is an amphetamine drug that was available to the public without a prescription and was used primarily by the American forces during the war. The use of amphetamines escalated as the German and Japanese forces turned to the stronger option of methamphetamine. A German Pharmaceutical company, Temmler, produced and marketed methamphetamine as a nonprescription drug that was called Pervitin and was regularly distributed to the German and Japanese armies throughout the war.

Japanese kamikaze pilots would receive very high doses of Pervitin before suicide flight missions (Editors, 2017).

The German army took things even farther toward the end of the war in an effort to boost morale and continue the development of the Nazi Super Soldier. The German army began working on and developing a drug called D-IX which contained cocaine, Pervitin and a painkiller (Scheve, 2009). While this drug never made it into circulation of the German army, this shows the length that the Germans went to in order to win the war and declare absolute power. The lust of drugs and power was not just a product of the German army, but it was in fact a result of the drug lust of their leader Adolf Hitler.

Due to the chronic and reoccurring pain Hitler dealt with throughout the war, he was regularly injected or given a laundry list of medications that varied from vitamins and glucose shots to cocaine and Methamphetamine. The combination of regular injections and various other dangerous drugs, the hallucinogenic side effects that are associated with these drugs began to add to Hitler's lust for power and is assumed to be the result of some of the decisions that were made during Hitler's search for power (Pruitt, 2016). As we all know, Hitler's search for power came to an end in 1945 when he took his own life. It is believed that Hitler was suffering from drug withdrawal and that may have been a contributing factor of him taking his own life.

The impact that addictive drugs like methamphetamines and cocaine had during the war is quite shocking. In just 2 months alone, the Nazis shipped 35 million units of Pervitin and other like substances to army and air force troops (ATI, 2018). The drug epidemic didn't just affect the armies in World War II, it also affected the public.

As mentioned above, both Pervitin and Benzedrine were made available to the public and led to many addiction problems among the public. Benzedrine use was very popular after the war and became a prominent staple of the Beatnik culture in the 1950s until the FDA began to require prescriptions for the drug which led to a drastic decline in its use (Editors, 2017). As for Pervitin and other methamphetamine like drugs, they were available until 1970 when they were banned by the FDA.