HEALTH HAZARDS

The home environment is often filthy with rotten food, garbage, animal feces, soiled laundry and diapers, sewage, insect and rodent infestations. Many homes are condemned.

EXPLOSION

30% of clandestine meth labs are identified because of an explosion/house fire. 50% of meth cookers are parents. Adults disconnect the smoke detectors because of false alarms when cooking meth.

LOCATION

Link the location of toxic chemicals, concentrated meth, and contaminated syringes/paraphernalia to the location where children live and play (bedroom, bathroom, play area, cooking surfaces, backyard).

POISONS

Flammable solvents, caustic acids and lye, iodine, phosphorus, often in very large quantities.

METHAMPHETAMINE

SHORT-TERM EFFECTS

Agitation, tremor, paranoia, seizure, stroke, high heart rate and blood pressure, abnormal heart rhythm, heart attack, extremely high fever.

LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Profound depression, paranoia, insomnia, weight loss, uncontrolled movement disorders, similar to Parkinson’s disease.

AFTER SOBER > 6 MONTHS

Profound depression, paranoia, insomnia, uncontrolled movement disorder. Brain damage seen on PET scan, extreme reduction in dopamine metabolism, similar to Parkinson’s disease.
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