Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act

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Goals and Objectives

- Discuss methamphetamine background and the scope of the problem as related to manufacture and abuse
- Identify and discuss the pharmacology of methamphetamine
- Discuss the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act
- Discuss smurfing and diversion of Small Capacity Production Labs
- Discuss methamphetamine manufacture and the dangers associated with methamphetamine production
Questions to Discuss

True or False....

The Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act was passed to limit the amount of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and/or Phenylpropanolamine available to clandestine laboratory operators who manufacture controlled substances such as methamphetamine and amphetamine.

True
Questions to Discuss

Which of the following drugs are not covered under the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Elimination Act as Scheduled Listed Chemical Products?

A) Ephedrine
B) Pseudoephedrine
C) Phenylephrine
D) Phenylpropanolamine

C) Phenylephrine
True or False....

The easiest method of methamphetamine manufacture is through the “one-pot” method using pseudoephedrine or ephedrine.

True
Foreign vs. Domestic Methamphetamine
The U.S. methamphetamine threat is a two prong problem:

- Methamphetamine manufactured by Mexican Trafficking Organizations (large “Super Labs” in Mexico & the U.S.)
- Small Capacity Production Labs (SCPLs) (based in the U.S.)
EPIC SOUTHWEST BORDER METH STATS (CA, AZ, NM, TX)

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CMEA Introduced

CMEA Into Effect

States Start to React

States Start to React
Pennsylvania Meth Lab Incidents

PA Moves to nPlex
Real-time Electronic Tracking
(Jun 30, 2013)
Domestic Meth

Today’s Home-Grown Methamphetamine
- Easier to make and more potent than ever before
- Common chemicals purchased over the counter
- Takes as little as one package of precursor
- Today’s meth made in as little as 15 minutes
  - earlier methods took 20+ hours
- Today’s labs are the most dangerous with regards to fires and explosions
- Accounts for 98% of all reported clandestine labs
Why do we have the CMEA?
To limit the domestic manufacture of methamphetamine by placing restrictions on the sale of Pseudoephedrine, ephedrine and phenylpropanolamine at retail outlets.
Domestic Chemical Trafficking

Ephedrine is Back
Bronkaid is back in CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart stores in CA. ~$15 for 60 tablets manufactured by Bayer.

Edit: Primatene is also around, but is twice as expensive since it has only half the ephedrine per dosage (check the box).

Yea, but you have to give an ID at the pharmacy. I wonder if they have a limit on how many you can buy per month or year.

There is a limit but it's more than enough to run EC on your own. If you're trying to buy it for yourself and 3 friends, it might throw up some flags.

This PDF shows that for 25 mg ephedrine sulfate (the kind found in Bronkaid), the purchase limit is 186 tablets per day (almost 8 boxes at 24 tablets per box), but not to exceed 18 boxes per month. Considering the max dosage is 50 mg per day according to this resource, you should only need 185 pills for a 12 week dosage, which you can buy in 1 day apparently haha (if you could buy partial boxes).

Then again that PDF also puts the limit of no more than 2 packages in 1 transaction. So if you need what, 14 tablets per week, you can buy 2 boxes every 3 weeks and be good.
You must keep a logbook which contains a written or electronic list of sales of drug products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine.

- **You** must write or enter in the logbook the name of the drug product and the quantity sold.
- **Your customer** must write or enter in the logbook their name and address, and the date and time of the sale.
- **Your customer** must also sign the logbook (signature).
Identification and Verification

- Your customer must show you a photo identification issued by a State or the federal government.
- Alternate Forms of Identification are allowed by 8 CFR 274a.2(b)(1)(v)(A) and 274a.2(b)(1)(v)(B)
Identification and Verification

You cannot sell Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine to customers unless they present appropriate identification.

You must verify that your customer’s name on the photo identification matches the name your customer wrote in the logbook.

You must verify that the date and time of the sale that your customer wrote in the logbook are correct.
Who can see the logbook information?

- You must keep the logbook secure.
- You may share information in the logbook:
  - To comply with the law; and
  - For a product recall.
- Logbook information may **only** be shown to local, state and federal law enforcement.
- Information in the logbook may be copied, inspected only, or turned over entirely.
- Ask your supervisor for further information about sharing information.
How do I store these drug products?

- You must store drug products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine either behind the counter or in a locked cabinet.
- You must give the drug product directly to the customer who signed the logbook.
How much of these drug products can I sell to each customer per day?

You cannot sell more than **3.6 grams per day to each customer** of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolamine.
How much of these drug products can my customer buy in a 30-day period?

Your customer cannot buy more than **9 grams** in a **30-day period** of Scheduled Listed Chemical Products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine.

**Does not apply to products dispensed pursuant to a valid prescription**
Why Pseudoephedrine or Ephedrine to Make Methamphetamine?
What’s the big deal with Pseudoephedrine? The answer is basically **One Oxygen Molecule**. The molecular similarity of pseudo to meth is so close that using today’s common methamphetamine manufacturing methods (“Shake & Bake” Red-Phosphorus or Anhydrous / Nazi method) simply reduce the molecular structure of pseudoephedrine/ ephedrine by one Oxygen molecule to create Methamphetamine.
Meth’s Effects
Psychological Effects

- Delusions
- Extreme paranoia
- Hallucinations
- Increased alertness
- Sense of well-being
- Prolonged depression
- Excessive excitation and talking
- Panic

- Anxiousness and nervousness
- Moodiness and irritability
Meth Addiction

When compared to Alcohol and Cocaine:

- A group of 100 people given a drink of alcohol every day for 3 weeks, **8 of the 100** will become addicted.

- A group of 100 people given meth or cocaine orally or as snuff every day for 3 weeks, **14 of the 100** will become addicted.

- A group of 100 people given meth by smoking or injection just 2 times, **90 of the 100** will become addicted.

- If a recovering meth addict, who has been clean for 11 months, has a hit of meth in placed in front of them, the desire to use it will cause the addict to use it, **100%** of the time.
An individual suffering from "crank bugs", a condition sometimes seen in cases of heavy methamphetamine abuse. A similar condition, called "coke bugs" or "snow bugs", is also seen in heavy cocaine users. This is a drug induced hallucination or sensation that bugs are crawling on or under the skin. The abuser picks at the skin in an attempt to remove the bugs. The individual pictured had similar marks on his legs, face, chest and back.
Lab Locations
Houses

Barns

POSSIBLE LAB LOCATIONS

Storage Units

"Vacant" Buildings
POSSIBLE LAB LOCATIONS

Campers
Cars
Trailers
Motels
Mobile Meth Lab found inside of truck during a traffic stop.
Lab Dangers
Meth Labs are Endangering our Communities
Florida & Alabama

“Meth lab explodes inside South Jacksonville apartment”

“Janitor finds meth lab in Walmart bathroom”

August 17, 2011 The Florida Times Union

WHNT April 11, 2012
Boaz, Alabama
Endangering our Communities
Washington, D.C.

“Meth Lab Explosion Rocks Luxury Apartment in Dupont Apartment”

February 2, 2012
Inthecapital.com
Meth Labs are Being Found At & Near Our Schools
Indiana & Michigan

“Two meth labs found at Elementary School”

“Meth Lab Next to Elementary School”

ABC57news April 4, 2012
Plymouth, Indiana

9 & 10 News April 2, 2012
Luther, Michigan
Meth Labs are Being Found At & Near Our Schools Georgia

“Police bust meth lab next to elementary school”

“Meth lab found in truck at South Effingham Middle School”

“Lawrence Lanier, 34, had two small children in his truck within arm’s reach of a meth lab when he was arrested at South Effingham Middle School, Effingham County Sheriff’s Office spokesman David Ehsanipoor said.”

WTOC.com March 29, 2012
Savannahnow.com April 10, 2012
Kingsland, Georgia
Meth Labs are Harming Our Environment
Tennessee & Kentucky

“Man Dumped Meth Waste Into Trout Stream.”

“Dumping meth labs – Materials pose threat to environment, including water supply, fish and wildlife”

“My concern is this is a trout stream, there are kids that fish this area,” said Sheriff Hensley”
April 25, 2012 WCYB.com

“The bad news is for the public Loving said, because the chemicals left behind are now in the river where people fish and swim.”

BG DailyNews.com August 19, 2011
“Two men plead guilty in meth lab-lab fire that heavily damaged Kalamazoo apartment building”
Kalamazoo Gazette March 31, 2010
Today’s Lab
One Pot/Shake and Bake
Production

How many of these are in your store?
One Pot Meth Production

- Combine
  - PSE tablets – whole or ground up
  - Solvent – ether, camp fuel
  - Lithium (Batteries)
  - Sodium Hydroxide
  - Ammonium Nitrate (cold packs)
  - Water

- Burp, Wait, Repeat
  - Filter off liquid
  - Use HCl generator to crash out Meth
Extremely Dangerous One-Pot labs

- One-Pot labs newest trend extremely Dangerous
- Clan lab stats increase in many states
- Reactive to water/moisture
- Meth labs catching fire at a higher rate
- 50% Failure (if it hasn’t – it will catch fire)
Case Study

Fragment of bottle lodged in ceiling
Damage to door jam
AVAILABILITY OF MANUFACTURING MATERIALS!!!!!!!!!!
“Black Friday” & “Cyber Monday”
Tweaker Tuesday”
BONUS BUYS

Thousands of deals available hundreds only seen online

FEATURED PRODUCTS

20% off

- with card Nice!™ Household Products • 16 pk. Dry Cloths • 12 pk. Wet Cloths • 3 or 5 pk. Dusters • 2 pk. Multi Erasers • 12 pk. Deep Cleaning Pads

FREE

- with card Nicet™ Household Products • Pine, Glass or All Purpose Cleaner, 24 to 32 oz. • Fabric Refresher, 27 oz. • Disinfectant Spray, 16 oz. • HandSaver, 32 oz.

4.99

- with card Ology™ Bath Tissue, 12 rolls.

FREE

- with card Playtex Finger Tip Towel

- with card Playtex Disposables Gloves • 10 pk.

- with card Playtex HandSaver • 1 pair

- with card Towel Holder with Fingertip Towel

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Time To Gather
What is a Smurf?

A smurf is someone who buys small quantities of ingredients (e.g., PSE, ice packs, lithium, matches, iodine), from several different locations, in order to manufacture, or more likely, assist in the manufacture of methamphetamine.
Final Thoughts
Meth Labs are Endangering and Harming our Children

- 30% of all meth labs have children in them
- 35% of children removed from meth lab scenes test positive for meth
LEPANTO, AR

Lepanto police arrested three people Thursday after reportedly find a working meth lab hidden behind a child's car seat.
Florida

4 children escape meth lab fire
Police believe a Muncie couple put the lives of hundreds of children – including three of their own – in danger by maintaining a meth lab in their southeast Muncie home near a school and a day care center.”

*Muncie Star Press December 32, 2011*

Police seek person who made meth at SW IND school”  Wish TV 8

*December 13, 2011*
Georgia

Chattooga Co. woman hides meth lab under children's play house

The Summerville News  April 16, 2012
Michigan

Meth lab explosion forces five families out of their apartments
Statewide, there were 547 substantiated reports involving 987 children exposed to meth labs from January 2006 to December 2010, according to the Missouri Department of Social Services. The state took custody of 507 of these children. DSS estimates the state has spent about $3.4 million providing custodial care to children removed from meth homes from August 2005 to December 2010.

News leader.com  February 25, 2012
Harming our Children
Florida

“Meth Lab Baby; A child’s fight for life.”

FoxTV.com  November 13, 2009
Meth Labs are Harming our Children
Tennessee

“Burned toddler found in Chattanooga meth lab”

“A Chattanooga woman has been arrested after police say her 2-year-old was severely burned at the family's residence -- where they also found a collection of meth labs.”

Chattanooga Times Free Press February 13, 2012
“Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said Thursday his deputies raided a suspected meth operation near the Hoke/Cumberland County line where a 6-month-old child was burned.”
February 4, 2011 WTVD Raleigh, N.C.

“In Morgantown, a meth lab was discovered at a day-care center.”
www.charlotteobserver.com April 3, 2011
Meth Labs are Harming our Children
Ohio

“Death of Akron toddler called suspicious; police say meth lab found in home.”

“Ohio toddler died from ingesting meth”

Akron Beacon Journal Online
February 27, 2012 & March 27, 2012
GWINNETT COUNTY, Ga.

3 Children Killed, Evidence Of Meth Found In Fire.

Gwinnett County police charged a man with murder after firefighters said they found chemicals related to methamphetamine production in a house fire that killed three children.
Meth Labs are Harming our Children
Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY

A judge was told Friday that Del City fire investigators found evidence that methamphetamine was made inside the burned motorhome where three young children died.
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