



West London Mental Health NHS Trust  
Imperial College London

### Substance misuse and clinical specialities – Day 2

Dr Christopher Hilton  
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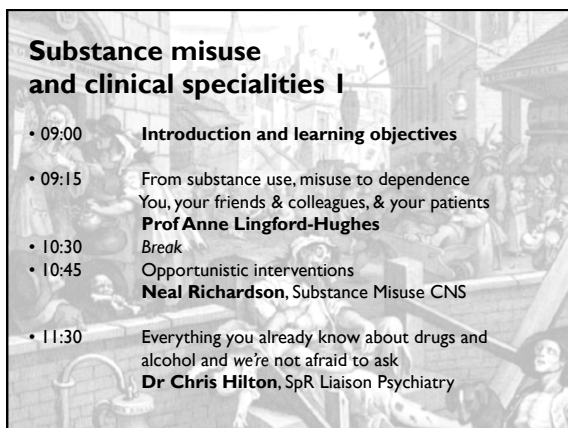
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### Substance misuse and clinical specialities I

- 09:00 Introduction and learning objectives
- 09:15 From substance use, misuse to dependence  
You, your friends & colleagues, & your patients  
**Prof Anne Lingford-Hughes**
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Opportunistic interventions  
**Neal Richardson**, Substance Misuse CNS
- 11:30 Everything you already know about drugs and alcohol and we're not afraid to ask  
**Dr Chris Hilton**, SpR Liaison Psychiatry

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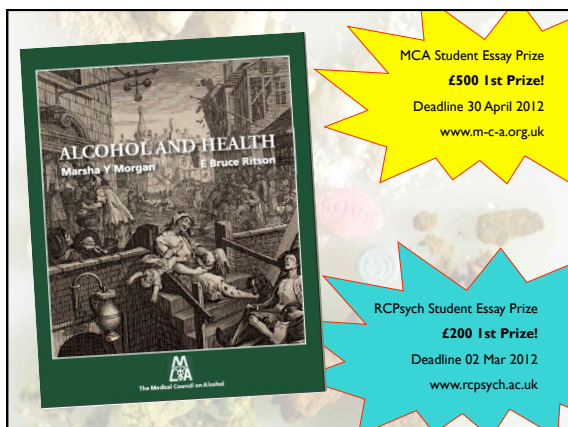
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**ALCOHOL AND HEALTH**  
Marsha V Morgan E Bruce Ritson

MCA Student Essay Prize  
**£500 1st Prize!**  
Deadline 30 April 2012  
[www.m-c-a.org.uk](http://www.m-c-a.org.uk)

RCPsych Student Essay Prize  
**£200 1st Prize!**  
Deadline 02 Mar 2012  
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### Substance misuse and clinical specialities 2

- 09:00 Introduction and learning objectives
- 09:30 Alcohol and the GI patient  
**Dr Thillainayagam & Dr Chris Hilton**
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Substance misuse and the heart  
**Dr John Baksi**, Clinical Fellow, Hammersmith
- 11:30 Substance misuse and the brain  
**Dr Rick Adams**, Clinical Fellow, Queens Square
- 12:15 Substance misuse and behaviour - parties and sex  
**Dr Chris Hilton**, SpR Liaison Psychiatry

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### Learning objectives

By the end of the lecture students should be able to:

- make an assessment of drug and alcohol in a **variety of clinical settings**
- recognise **life threatening complications** of substance misuse, including septicaemia, pulmonary emboli, delirium and overdose and be able to carry out appropriate interventions
- Describe and explain the links between substance misuse and:
  - **accidents**
  - **liver disease, pancreatitis and gastritis**
  - **heart disease and hypertension**
  - **infectious diseases** including HIV and hepatitis
  - **neurological conditions** including seizures, paraesthesia and stroke
- demonstrate a **professional attitude** towards substance misusers

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A young woman has discovered a low-alcohol beer which is 0.5% ABV.  
How many 500mL cans she could drink per day and remain within government guidelines?

**A – 250**  
**B – 25**  
**C – 16**  
**D – 12**  
**E – 75**

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### Taking a substance misuse history

Who? **Everyone**. 70 year olds were in 20s in the swinging sixties!

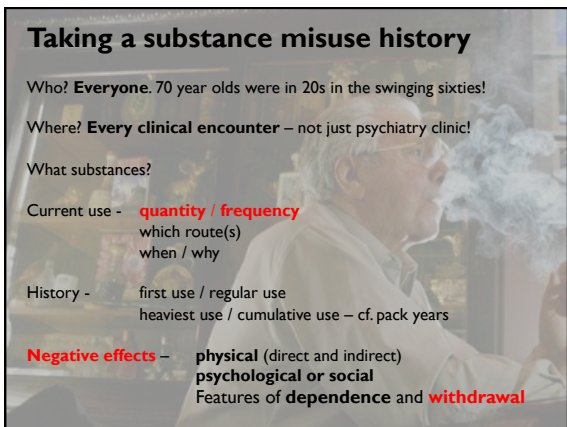
Where? **Every clinical encounter** – not just psychiatry clinic!

What substances?

Current use - **quantity / frequency**  
which route(s)  
when / why

History - first use / regular use  
heaviest use / cumulative use – cf. pack years

**Negative effects** – **physical** (direct and indirect)  
**psychological or social**  
Features of **dependence** and **withdrawal**



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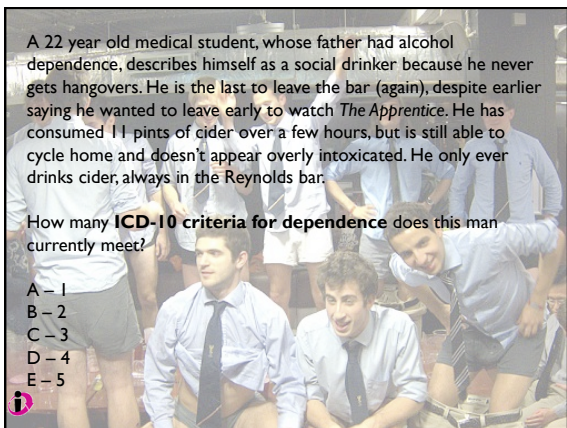
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A 22 year old medical student, whose father had alcohol dependence, describes himself as a social drinker because he never gets hangovers. He is the last to leave the bar (again), despite earlier saying he wanted to leave early to watch *The Apprentice*. He has consumed 11 pints of cider over a few hours, but is still able to cycle home and doesn't appear overly intoxicated. He only ever drinks cider, always in the Reynolds bar.

How many **ICD-10 criteria for dependence** does this man currently meet?

A – 1  
B – 2  
C – 3  
D – 4  
E – 5



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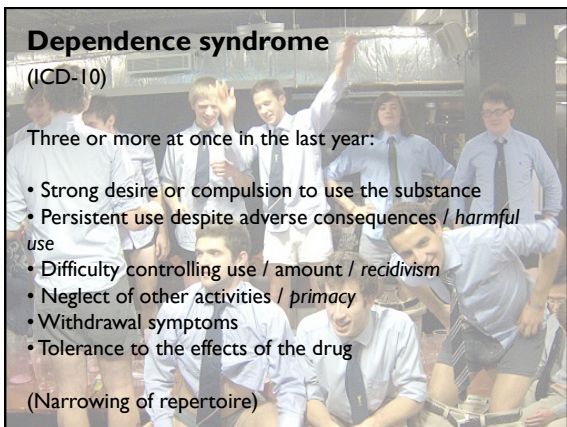
### Dependence syndrome

(ICD-10)

Three or more at once in the last year:

- Strong desire or compulsion to use the substance
- Persistent use despite adverse consequences / *harmful use*
- Difficulty controlling use / amount / *recidivism*
- Neglect of other activities / *primacy*
- Withdrawal symptoms
- Tolerance to the effects of the drug

(Narrowing of repertoire)



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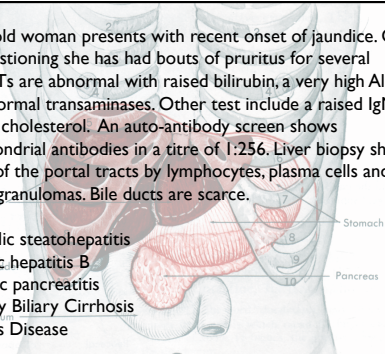
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A 47 year old woman presents with recent onset of jaundice. On further questioning she has had bouts of pruritus for several months. LFTs are abnormal with raised bilirubin, a very high Alk Phos and normal transaminases. Other test include a raised IgM and high serum cholesterol. An auto-antibody screen shows antimitochondrial antibodies in a titre of 1:256. Liver biopsy shows expansion of the portal tracts by lymphocytes, plasma cells and occasional granulomas. Bile ducts are scarce.

A – Alcoholic steatohepatitis  
 B – Chronic hepatitis B  
 C – Chronic pancreatitis  
 D – Primary Biliary Cirrhosis  
 E – Wilson's Disease



The liver and pancreas in their normal positions relative to the rib cage, diaphragm, and stomach.

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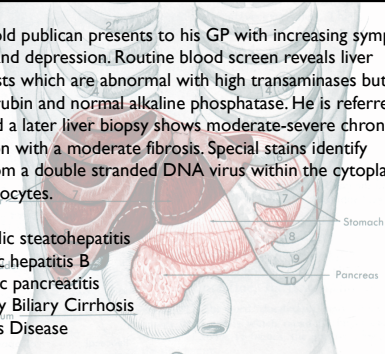
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A 38 year old publican presents to his GP with increasing symptoms of anxiety and depression. Routine blood screen reveals liver function tests which are abnormal with high transaminases but normal bilirubin and normal alkaline phosphatase. He is referred to hospital and a later liver biopsy shows moderate-severe chronic inflammation with a moderate fibrosis. Special stains identify antigens from a double stranded DNA virus within the cytoplasm of many hepatocytes.

A – Alcoholic steatohepatitis  
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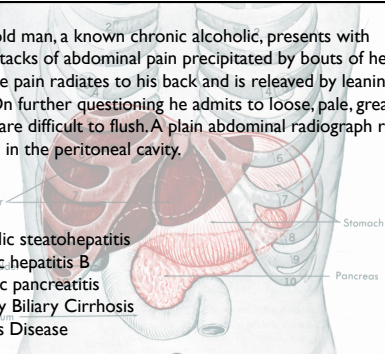
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A 56 year old man, a known chronic alcoholic, presents with repeated attacks of abdominal pain precipitated by bouts of heavy drinking. The pain radiates to his back and is relieved by leaning forwards. On further questioning he admits to loose, pale, greasy stools that are difficult to flush. A plain abdominal radiograph reveals calcification in the peritoneal cavity.

A – Alcoholic steatohepatitis  
 B – Chronic hepatitis B  
 C – Chronic pancreatitis  
 D – Primary Biliary Cirrhosis  
 E – Wilson's Disease



The liver and pancreas in their normal positions relative to the rib cage, diaphragm, and stomach.

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Which of the following factors is not likely to increase the risk of liver damage in alcohol dependence?

- A. Female sex
- B. Concurrent use of cocaine
- C. Concurrent use of methadone
- D. Consumption of neat versus mixed spirits
- E. Smoking

The liver and pancreas in their normal positions relative to the rib cage, diaphragm, and stomach.

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A 53 year old man had a liver transplant 12 years ago. He has been advised to continue with life-long immunosuppressive therapy. He presents with a several month history of fatigue, fever, night-sweats and weight loss. On examination he has supraclavicular rubbery lymphadenopathy, a pleural effusion and ascites. Blood results:  
Hb 9.1 g/dL, MCV 84.3 fL; WCC 21.3  $\times 10^9/L$ ; ESR 254mm/hr

- A – Acute rejection
- B – Azathioprine (side effects)
- C – Cyclosporin (side effects)
- D – Graft vs host disease
- E – Steroids (side effects)

The liver and pancreas in their normal positions relative to the rib cage, diaphragm, and stomach.

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A 47 year old man diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy secondary to alcohol excess underwent a heart transplant operation. He is taking high dose prednisolone to prevent acute rejection but no other agents. Six weeks post-op he complains of severe bloody diarrhoea. He also has visual disturbance characterised by floaters and loss of visual acuity. On examination he is febrile (38°C). Fundoscopy reveals retinal haemorrhage and exudates which follow the retinal vasculature. Hb 10.2g/dL, WCC 2.2  $\times 10^9/L$ , Pl 165  $\times 10^9/L$

- A – Acute rejection
- B – Azathioprine (side effects)
- C – Cyclosporin (side effects)
- D – Graft vs host disease
- E – Steroids (side effects)

The liver and pancreas in their normal positions relative to the rib cage, diaphragm, and stomach.

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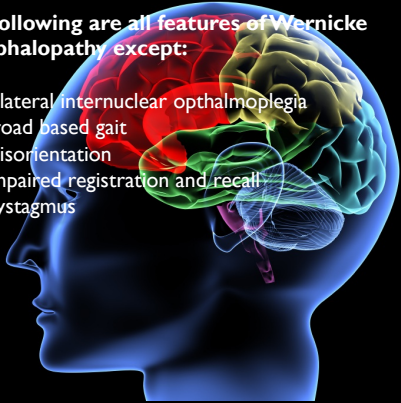
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**The following are all features of Wernicke Encephalopathy except:**

- A – Bilateral internuclear ophthalmoplegia
- B – Broad based gait
- C – Disorientation
- D – Impaired registration and recall
- E – Nystagmus



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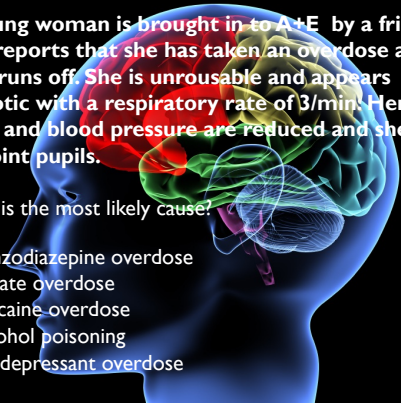
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**A young woman is brought in to A+E by a friend who reports that she has taken an overdose and then runs off. She is unrousable and appears cyanotic with a respiratory rate of 3/min. Her pulse and blood pressure are reduced and she has pinpoint pupils.**

What is the most likely cause?

- A. Benzodiazepine overdose
- B. Opiate overdose
- C. Cocaine overdose
- D. Alcohol poisoning
- E. Antidepressant overdose



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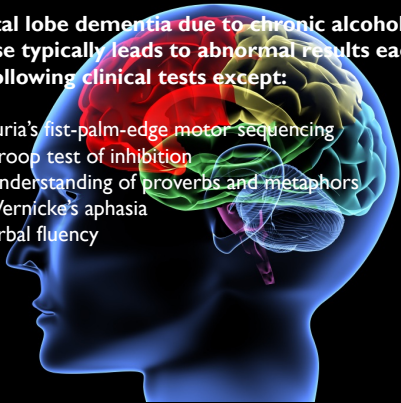
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**Frontal lobe dementia due to chronic alcohol misuse typically leads to abnormal results each in the following clinical tests except:**

- A – Luria's fist-palm-edge motor sequencing
- B – Stroop test of inhibition
- C – Understanding of proverbs and metaphors
- D – Wernicke's aphasia
- E – Verbal fluency



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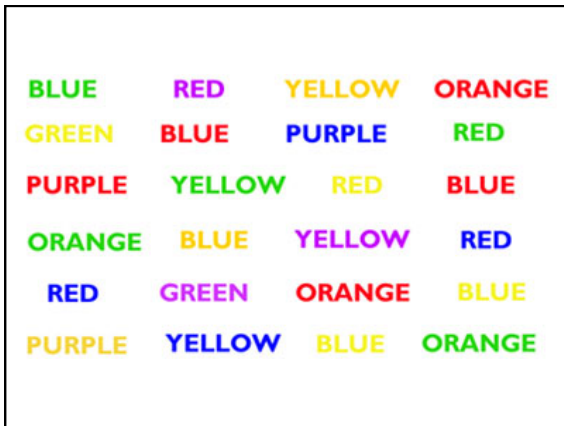
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**Newsweek**

**America's most dangerous drug**

08 Aug 2005

It creates a potent, long-lasting high—until the user crashes and, too often, literally burns.

How meth quietly marched across the country and up the socioeconomic ladder—and the wreckage it leaves in its wake.

As law enforcement fights a losing battle on the ground, officials ask: are the Feds doing all they can to contain this epidemic?

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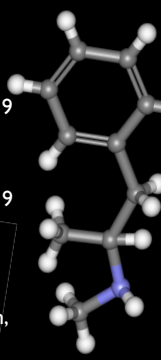
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## Methamphetamine

Amphetamines first developed in late C19 and marketed as bronchodilators or for narcolepsy

Methamphetamine first developed in 1919 in Japan. In USA sold as Desoxyn / Methedrine / Pervitin

Recommended for: pain, narcolepsy, Parkinsonism, ADHD, obesity, depression, cocaine addiction, alcoholism - still licensed!



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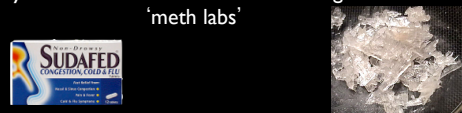
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## Crystal meth

Easily synthesised from over the counter ingredients in 'meth labs'



Street names: crystal, ice, chalk, glass, crank, Tina, go-fast, redneck cocaine, chandelier, tweak

Three waves of endemic use in USA: post WW2 by veterans, mid sixties when over prescribed, 1990s from illicit sources.

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## Administration

Colourless crystals

- Smoked in a pipe
- Injected
- Snorted
- PO / PR / ?

Depending on dose and route - can keep user awake and euphoric for 2 - 24 hours



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### Prevalence?

2005, est 0.5% of the USA population (1.3 million) had used crystal meth in the last year Office of Applied Statistics 2007

2005, est 0.1% - 12% lifetime experience rates of meth/amp (UK highest) EMCDDA

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### Prevalence?

2005 gay men: 0.8% >1 per month, 2.8% used in last year. Sigma Research 2007

2006 London gay men: gym users: 21% had crystal use in last year. GUM clinic: **8%** Bolding et al 2006.

2010 London gay men: **7.8%** responding to questionnaire reported using in last year (2.2 - 4.8% other regions) Bonnell et al 2010.

HIV positive gay men considerably more likely to report methamphetamine use than HIV negative men (**19.5%**) Bonnell et al 2010.

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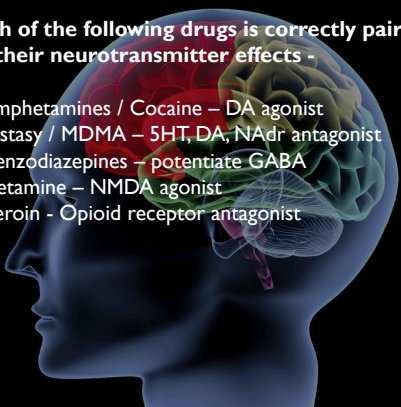
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Which of the following drugs is correctly paired with their neurotransmitter effects -

- A - Amphetamines / Cocaine - DA agonist
- B - Ecstasy / MDMA - 5HT, DA, NAAdr antagonist
- C - Benzodiazepines - potentiate GABA
- D - Ketamine - NMDA agonist
- E - Heroin - Opioid receptor antagonist



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**Negative Effects: Physical**

Direct effects: tooth decay: "meth mouth", vapour burns and crystal deposition in lungs

Autonomic effects: tachycardia, palpitations, blood pressure. CVA, MI, permanent vessel damage in eyes / kidneys. "Crystal dick"

Neurotoxicity: tardive dyskinesia, neuropathy

Behavioural consequences: anorexia, malnutrition, HIV, STDs, poor medication compliance, pregnancy (foetal abnormalities)

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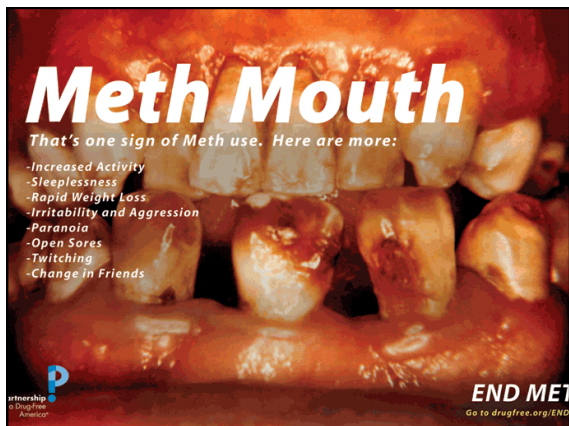
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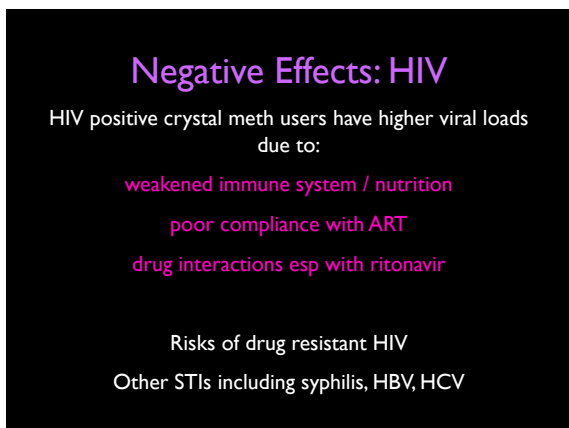
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**Negative Effects: HIV**

Associations between substance use, erectile dysfunction medication and recent HIV infection among MSM

Drumright et al AIDS Behav 2009

Case-control study between recently infected HIV+ MSM and HIV-. No significant differences in number of partners but cases more likely than controls to report methamphetamine or nitrate use.

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**Negative Effects: HIV**

Amphetamine use is associated with increased HIV incidence among MSM in San Francisco

Buchacz AIDS 2007

2991 MSM in San Francisco (anonymous HIV test)

- 290 admitted to crystal meth use
- 6.3% recent HIV acquisition
- 8% if used crystal meth during sex
- Others 2.1% HIV acquisition

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## Psychiatric Consequences

Kindling effect of stimulant induced **psychosis** (reverse tolerance) - the more psychotic symptoms are experienced the more likely to experience on subsequent use and with heightened and lengthened course

Can lead to a **chronic state** of methamphetamine induced psychosis similar to schizophrenia.

Short term improved performance. Long term **cognitive decline**: poor recall, information manipulation, abstract thinking, and ability to ignore irrelevant information (eg Stroop). Verbal fluency and digit span unaffected.

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## Primary prevention

Public health campaigns eg: THT, schools



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## Treatment

- Addressing link with sex
  - CBT / Motivational Enhancement Therapy to promote abstinence
- Pharmaceutical options to promote abstinence and treat psychosis



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**Biological**  
Directly elated to route eg burns / thrombosis  
Acquired due to route eg HIV, septicaemia


Due to effect of drug eg arrythmia, HBP  
Acquired due to use of drug eg TD

Acquired due to behaviour whilst on drug eg HIV

**Psychological**  
Due to effect of the drug eg delirium  
Due to withdrawal from drug eg psychosis  
Due to long term effects eg dementia  
Addiction

**Social**  
Self neglect, non-compliance

*Could you apply these headings to other drugs?*



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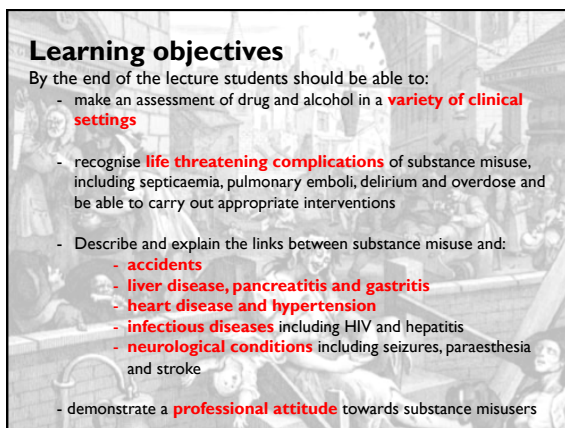
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**Learning objectives**

By the end of the lecture students should be able to:

- make an assessment of drug and alcohol in a **variety of clinical settings**
- recognise **life threatening complications** of substance misuse, including septicaemia, pulmonary emboli, delirium and overdose and be able to carry out appropriate interventions
- Describe and explain the links between substance misuse and:
  - **accidents**
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  - **heart disease and hypertension**
  - **infectious diseases** including HIV and hepatitis
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- demonstrate a **professional attitude** towards substance misusers



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