

# Methamphetamine

# LAB ADVISORY

## POTENTIAL HARM FROM METH LABS

1. Physical injury from explosion, chemical burn, and toxic fume
2. Child endangerment
3. Environmental hazard

### COMMONLY USED CHEMICALS\*

### AND THEIR SOURCES

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Ephedrine . . . . .              | <i>(Over-counter Cold/Allergy Meds)</i>  |
| 2. Pseudoephedrine. . . . .         | <i>(Over-counter Cold/Allergy Meds)</i>  |
| 3. Phenyl Propanolamine . . . . .   | <i>(Over-counter Cold/Allergy Meds)</i>  |
| 4. Red Phosphorous . . . . .        | <i>(Road Flares, Fireworks, Match Heads)</i>   |
| 5. Iodine . . . . .                 | <i>(Over-counter First Aid Tincture @ 7% strength, also found in horse barns, used in veterinary practice)</i> |
| 6. Hydrochloric Acid . . . . .      | <i>(Muriatic Acid used in swimming pools)</i>  |
| 7. Hydriotic Acid . . . . .         | <i>(Red Phosphorous and Iodine)</i>  |
| 8. Sulfuric Acid . . . . .          | <i>(Battery Acid, Drain Cleaner)</i>   |
| 9. Lithium . . . . .                | <i>(Camera Batteries)</i>  |
| 10. Petroleum Distillates . . . . . | <i>(Paint Thinner, Lantern Fuel, Kerosene, Mineral Spirits, Acetone)</i>                                       |
| 11. Magnesium Sulfate . . . . .     | <i>(Epsom Salts)</i>   |
| 12. Anhydrous Ammonia . . . . .     | <i>(Fertilizer, found on farms)</i>  |
| 13. Sodium Hydroxide . . . . .      | <i>(Lye, Drain Cleaner)</i>  |
| 14. Ethyl Ether . . . . .           | <i>(Automotive Starter Fluid)</i>  |
| 15. Methyl Alcohol . . . . .        | <i>(Heet)</i>  |
| 16. Ethylene Glycol . . . . .       | <i>(Anti-freeze)</i>   |

\*There may be as many as 200 other chemicals or substances that might be used to manufacture methamphetamine.



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## CHECKLIST:

### FIRST RESPONSE TO A METH LAB SCENE

1. Wear proper safety equipment before entering area.
2. Approach the area from upwind.
3. Secure the location, and notify on-scene emergency medical, fire, and hazmat personnel.
4. Do not smoke in or around the area.
5. Ensure any persons in the area are removed to a safe location. Consider evacuation, if appropriate.
6. Administer emergency first aid, if necessary.
7. Do not touch, taste, or smell equipment, chemicals, or containers without proper safety equipment.
8. Do not trust container labels, as contents may have been switched.
9. Do not attempt to curtail or stop any observed chemical reaction.
10. Do not turn any electrical devices or lights on or off, including flashlights. Do not unplug any electrical devices.
11. Do not turn off the water supply to the structure or the chemical reaction.
12. Avoid contamination of yourself, suspects and bystanders when removing contaminated clothing, shoes, and equipment.
13. If executing a raid, ensure emergency medical assistance is on-scene prior to execution.



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