

# Stimulants and Your Brain

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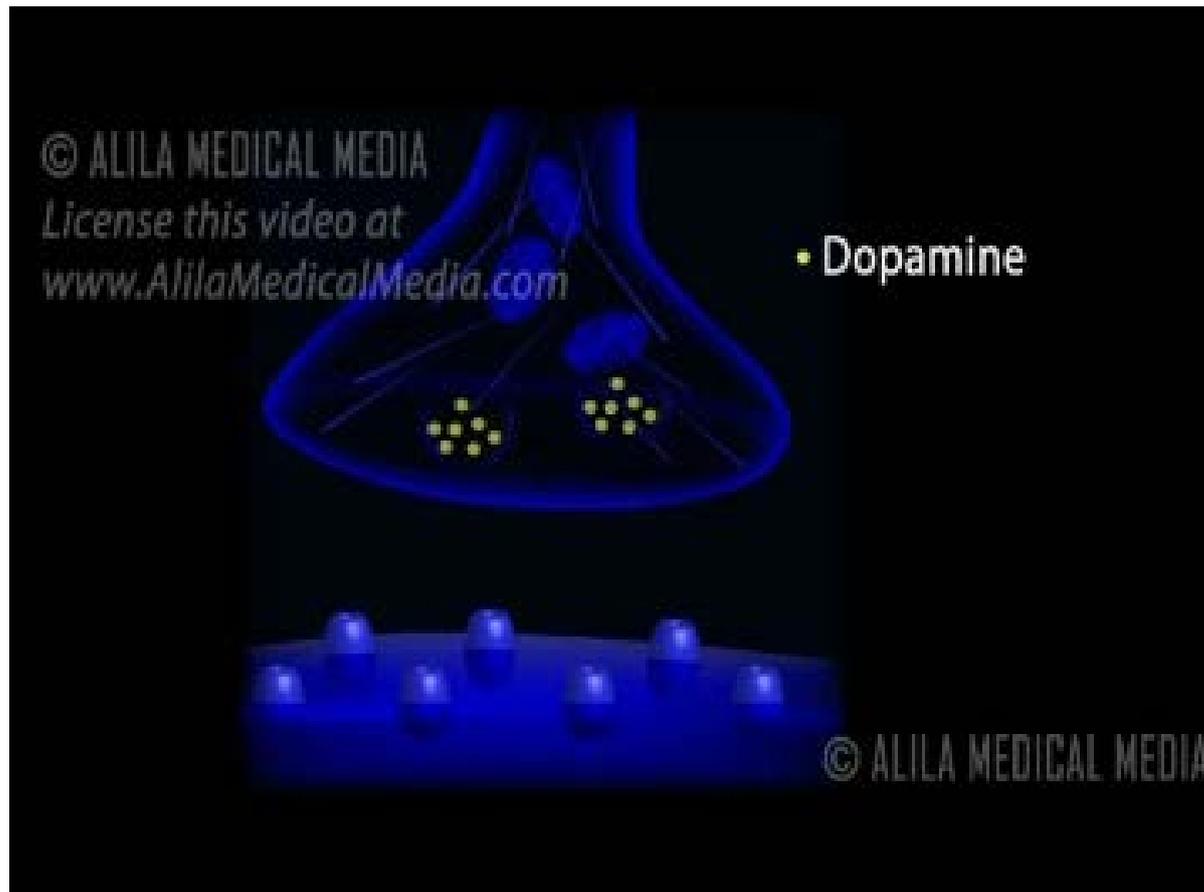
# What are stimulants?



**METHAMPHETAMINE**



# How do they work?



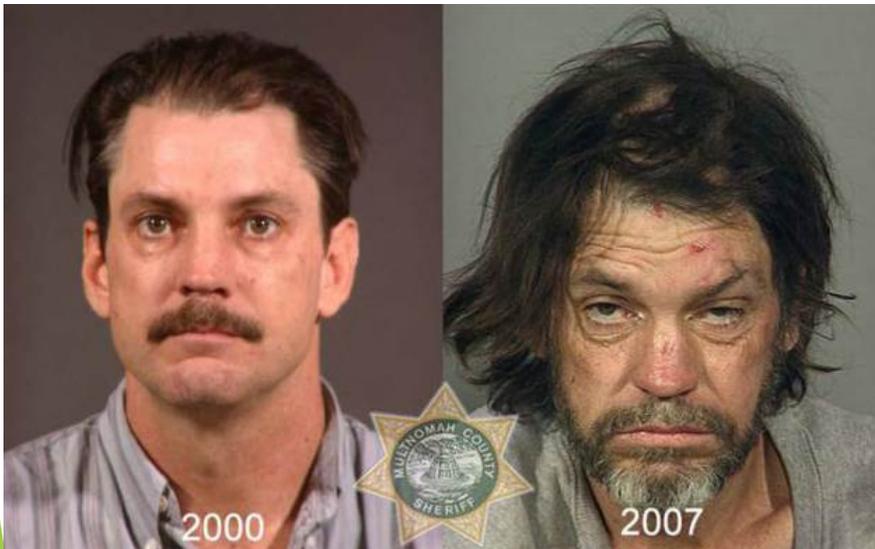
# Physical effects and dangers

Effect	Danger
Increased heart rate	Heart attack
Increased blood pressure	Stroke
Increased temperature	Overheating & Dehydration
Decreased appetite	Weight loss
Reduced salivation	Meth mouth



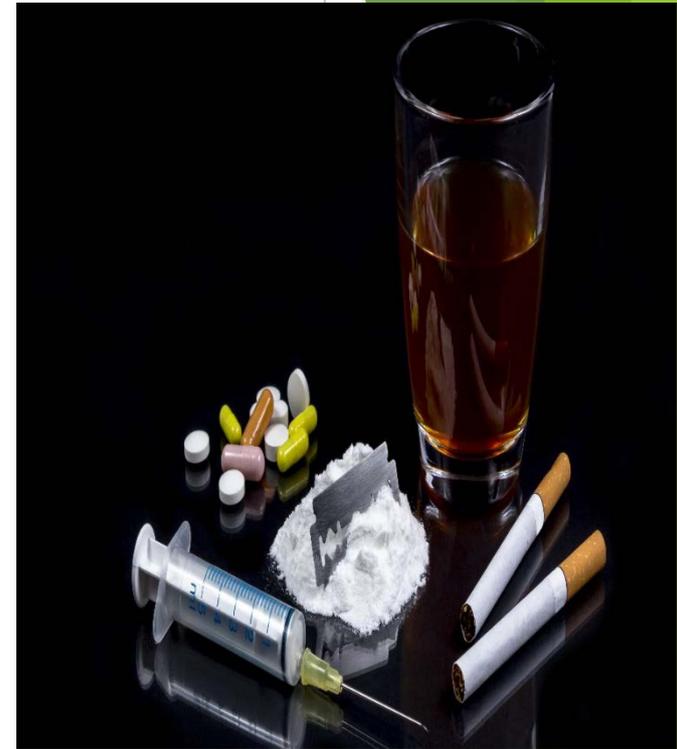
# Mental effects and dangers

Effects	Dangers
Obsessive focus	Paranoia
Increased alertness	Crazy behavior (psychosis)



# Combining Stimulants and Other Drugs

- ▶ Mixing with drugs that have opposite effects:
  - ▶ Alcohol
  - ▶ Sleeping pills and anxiety meds
  - ▶ Heroin and painkillers



# Addiction/Withdrawal

- ▶ Withdrawal symptoms:
  - ▶ Fatigue
  - ▶ Increased appetite
  - ▶ Inability to focus
- ▶ Social problems:
  - ▶ Stealing
  - ▶ Prostitution
  - ▶ Drug cartels



# Bath Salts

A Legal(?) High



- ▶ Sold as legal high online and certain stores
- ▶ Also sold as plant food, jewelry cleaner, phone cleaner

# Street Names

Bloom	Cloud Nine
Vanilla Sky	White Lightning
Scarface	Meow Meow
Drone	bk-MDMA
Ivory Wave	Lunar Wave
Explosion	Flakka

# Effects and mechanism

- ▶ Same effect on synapses as meth and cocaine
- ▶ Physical and mental effects are also very similar
- ▶ Just as if not more addictive!





# Safety and Legality



- ▶ Can cause someone to test positive for meth use
- ▶ Some bath salts are now illegal – state and federal laws
- ▶ If a bath salt is legal, has no regulation – may be impure
- ▶ Often sold as mixtures

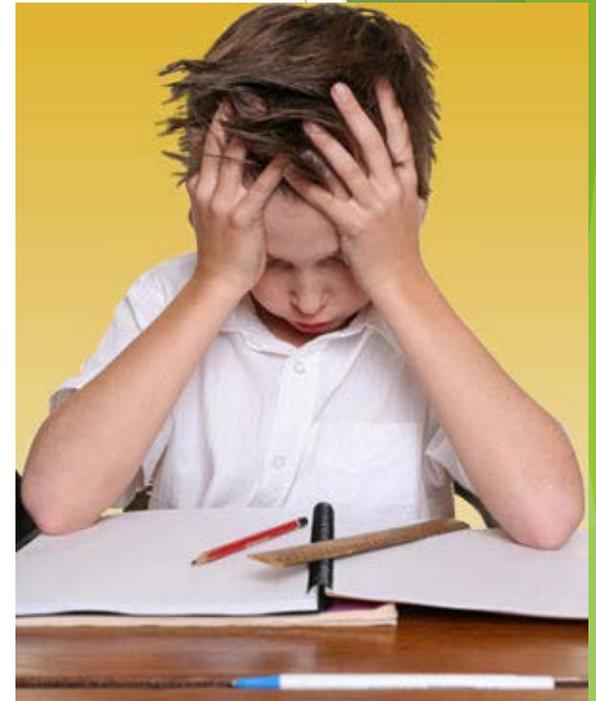


# ADHD Medications



# What is ADHD?

- ▶ Difficulty paying attention
- ▶ Hyperactivity
- ▶ Impulsive behavior
- ▶ ~5% of children under 18 have ADHD worldwide



# Types of Medications

- ▶ Adderall
- ▶ Vyvanse
- ▶ Ritalin



# ADHD Medications as “Study Aids”

- ▶ Doesn't actually make you smarter
- ▶ Could end up very focused on something aside from school
- ▶ Might end up being detrimental



# Dangers of Abuse

- ▶ Inability to concentrate without the drug
- ▶ Irregular sleeping patterns
- ▶ Dangerous combinations
- ▶ Drug tests
- ▶ Legal issues
- ▶ Death



# Treatment

