ILLEGAL DRUGS AND YOUR MOUTH
Presented by ForsythTeens

METHAMPHETAMINES AND HEROIN
Other names: crystal meth, meth, speed, ice, crank

METH MOUTH ALSO SEEN IN HEROIN USERS

METH EFFECTS ON YOUR MOUTH
Rampant caries progression “meth mouth” caused by:

Xerostomia: dry mouth. Methamphetamines and heroin decrease the amount of saliva produced. Saliva helps protect the teeth from acids.

Cravings for sugary high calorie carbonated drinks. Increases decay rate. Heroin users tend to snack more.

The acidic nature of meth also adds to the increase in decay mostly effecting the smooth outside surface of teeth.

COCAINE/CRACK COCAINE

Gingival Recession
Affects on mouth and upper respiratory system:

- Snorting cocaine damages the inside of nose and sinus cavity.
- Cocaine is acidic and abrasive so it can wear or cause perforations (holes) in the nasal septum and floor of sinus cavity.
- It also causes irritation to lungs increasing risk of infection and permanent damage.
- Rubbed on the gums cocaine caused lesion (sores) and wear on teeth and gums.
- Again it is acidic so it increases risk of decay.
- Cocaine use can cause grinding of teeth which damages the teeth and the Temporal Mandibular Joint (jaw joint).
- Xerostomia is an additional effect, increasing decay rate.

ADDITIONAL RISK OF USING COCAINE

- Cocaine increases heart rate and blood pressure while the constricting the arteries which can result in a heart attack. Even if you do not have heart disease
- Cocaine use can also constrict the blood vessels which can cause a stroke
- Cocaine can also cause a deadly abnormal heart rhythm called arrhythmia

AFFECTS OF MARIJUANA ON YOUR MOUTH.

Fiery red gingivitis
Gingival leukoplakia
Alveolar bone loss (supporting bone to the teeth)
Gingival hyperplasia
Oral papilloma
Uvulitis
Increases risk of oral and lung cancer
Xerostomia, dry mouth increase decay

Smoke from marijuana:
has been shown to contain many of the same toxins, irritants and carcinogens as tobacco smoke.

Beyond just what’s in the smoke alone, marijuana is typically smoked differently than tobacco. Marijuana smokers tend to inhale more deeply and hold their breath longer than cigarette smokers, which leads to a greater exposure per breath to tar.

Smoking marijuana can harm more than just the lungs and respiratory system - it can also affect the immune system and the body’s ability to fight disease, especially for those whose immune systems are already weakened from immunosuppressive drugs or diseases.

When marijuana use begins in the teen years, it can have a significant impact on brain development. Including decreased brain activity, fewer neural fibers in certain areas and a smaller than average hippocampus, which controls learning and memory functions.
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Alveolar bone loss
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Oral papilloma
Tongue carcinoma
Uvulitis