

Methamphetamine Ice

- **What is Ice?**
- **How Did It Get To This Point?**
- **How Serious Is It?**
- **What Can We Do About?**

What Is “ICE”

- Ice is a stimulant drug.
- It speeds up the messages travelling between the brain and the body.
- It is a type of methamphetamine.
- Stronger, more addictive.
- More harmful side effects than speed (can cause brain damage).



How Serious Is It? (2005 data)

- Almost one in ten Australians have ever tried methamphetamine (known locally by the street terms 'speed', 'base', 'ice', and 'crystal', AIHW, **2005**) and
- Around half a million Australian adults were current users of the drug (National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre **2005**)

How Serious Is It?

- Methamphetamine ICE use is increasing around Australia with up to **one in 10** (12.0 per cent) 20–29 year olds reporting use within the past 12 months (Swinburne University 2010 and ADF 2010).
- 2010 – 13: Change in the type of methamphetamine used. Use of powder decreased from 51% to 29% (NDSHS 2013).
- Use of ice (or crystal methamphetamine) more than doubled, from 22% in 2010 to 50% in 2013 (NDSHS 2013).

Australian Institute of Criminology 2011 (DUMA)

Increase in use of methamphetamine

Key Findings from 32,776 voluntary urinalysis tests

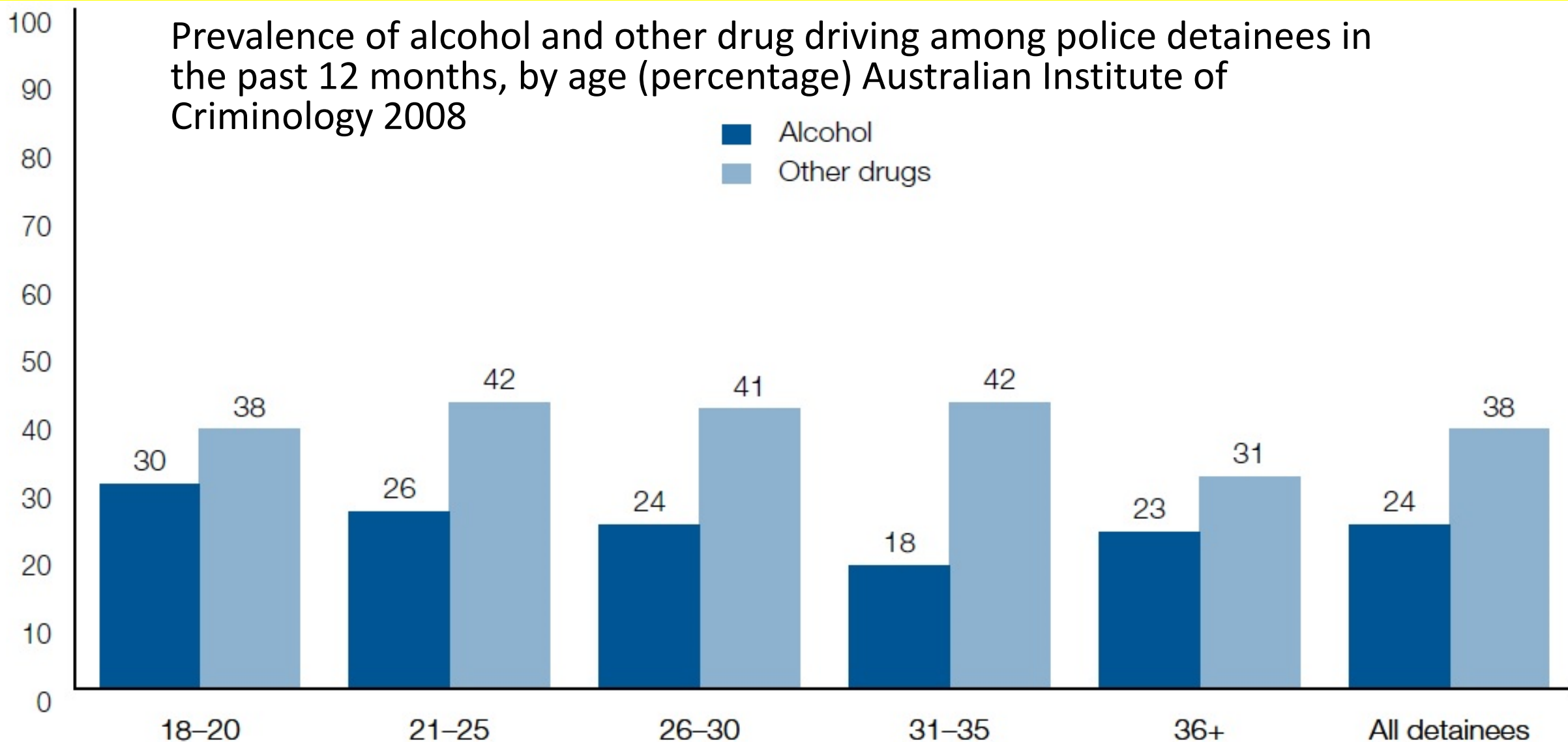
2009: 13% tested positive to methamphetamine

2010: 16% tested positive to methamphetamine

2011: 21% tested positive to methamphetamine

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Prevalence of alcohol and other drug driving among police detainees in the past 12 months, by age (percentage) Australian Institute of Criminology 2008



Victoria Drug Testing

- Shepparton drug offences up 110 per cent, followed by Latrobe with a 56 per cent rise and Wodonga up 37 per cent.
- Possession and using a drug offences are up 64 per cent in Victoria from 2009/10 to 2012/13 (Wade Noonan, Shadow Minister for Police)
- **2004 to 2006:** 25,273 drivers were screened for the presence of drugs. 503 drivers tested positive (detection rate - **1:50**)
- **2013:** During Operation Raid, **1 in 11** motorists tested positive to driving with illicit drugs in their system - almost double the yearly average of detections.

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Herald Sun



MELBOURNE **10C-16C**

LAW & ORDER

Tide of evil: Drug ice linked to killings of 14 people in 14 months across Victoria

MARK BUTTLER NEWS LIMITED MARCH 27, 2014 10:30PM

14 ICE-RELATED KILLINGS IN 14 MONTHS

KARA DOYLE

Shot dead at Avondale Heights. Her boyfriend, Mehmet Torun, who has pleaded guilty to manslaughter, was high on ice when he opened fire.

GORDON HAMM

Killed at Nelson in the state's west. Court has been told three men accused are involved in ice distribution.

SARIA JOHNSON

Police allege was smoking ice with others — including a man now charged with her murder — before she was shot last April.

MADDISON MURPHY-WEST



RICKY LEE GANLY

Body found in central Victoria in January. Court told a man charged with his murder was withdrawing from ice, among other drugs.

MADDISON MURPHY-WEST

Police believe the prime suspect in her October murder had a raging ice habit.

BRADLEY MILLER

Disappeared, presumed murdered, in May. Homicide police investigating potential ice link.

WAYNE AMEY



ROSS KONIDARIS

Court told used ice and cocaine before killing his grandparents, Triantafillio and Stavroula, at Yarraville. Found not guilty on grounds of mental impairment.

WAYNE AMEY

A woman charged with being an accessory to the killing, was described in court as coming off ice. Two men have been charged with the murder.

YOUNG woman killed in suburban Melbourne by alleged ice user.

KARA DOYLE



A MAN died after allegedly being shot by an accomplice while committing a crime. The pair were allegedly ice users.

WILLIAM STEPHENSON

Found murdered in a burnt-out car in northern Victoria, was allegedly the victim of an ice-related robbery.

VICTIM killed by mentally ill man suspected of using ice.

MELBOURNE man was allegedly murdered in remote Victorian town in crime allegedly connected to ice.

Queensland Drug Testing

- 2008: **one in 50** drivers tested positive for illicit drugs.
- 2012: **one in 20** drivers tested positive for illicit drugs.

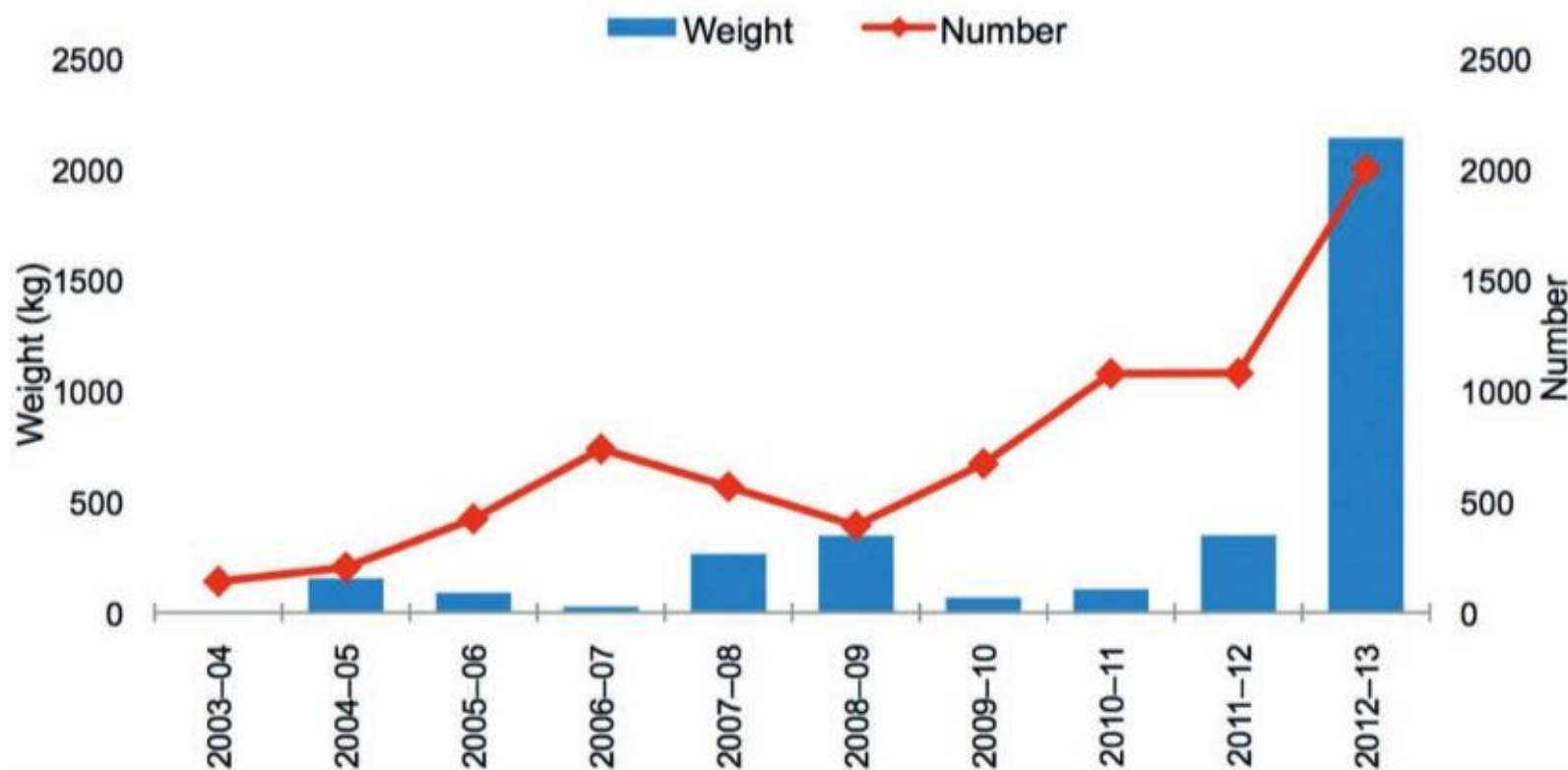
Tasmania Drug Testing & Offending

- 2011/12: **349 of 1678** drivers tested positive, **one in 5**.
- 2012/13: **454 of 1698** drivers tested positive, **one in 4**.
- 2013/14: **619 of 1819** drivers tested positive, **one in 3**.
- 2013/14: **46%** of drivers that tested positive, were positive to amphetamines. Almost **one in 6**
- Methamphetamine related offences in Tasmania increased by **780%** from **1996/97 to 2011/12**. (Tasmanian Drug Trends 2012) as reported by Tasmania Police.

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Detection of ATS At Australian Borders Is The Highest On Record

FIGURE 1: Number and weight of ATS (excluding MDMA) detections at the Australian border, 2003–04 to 2012–13 (Source: Australian Customs and Border Protection Service)



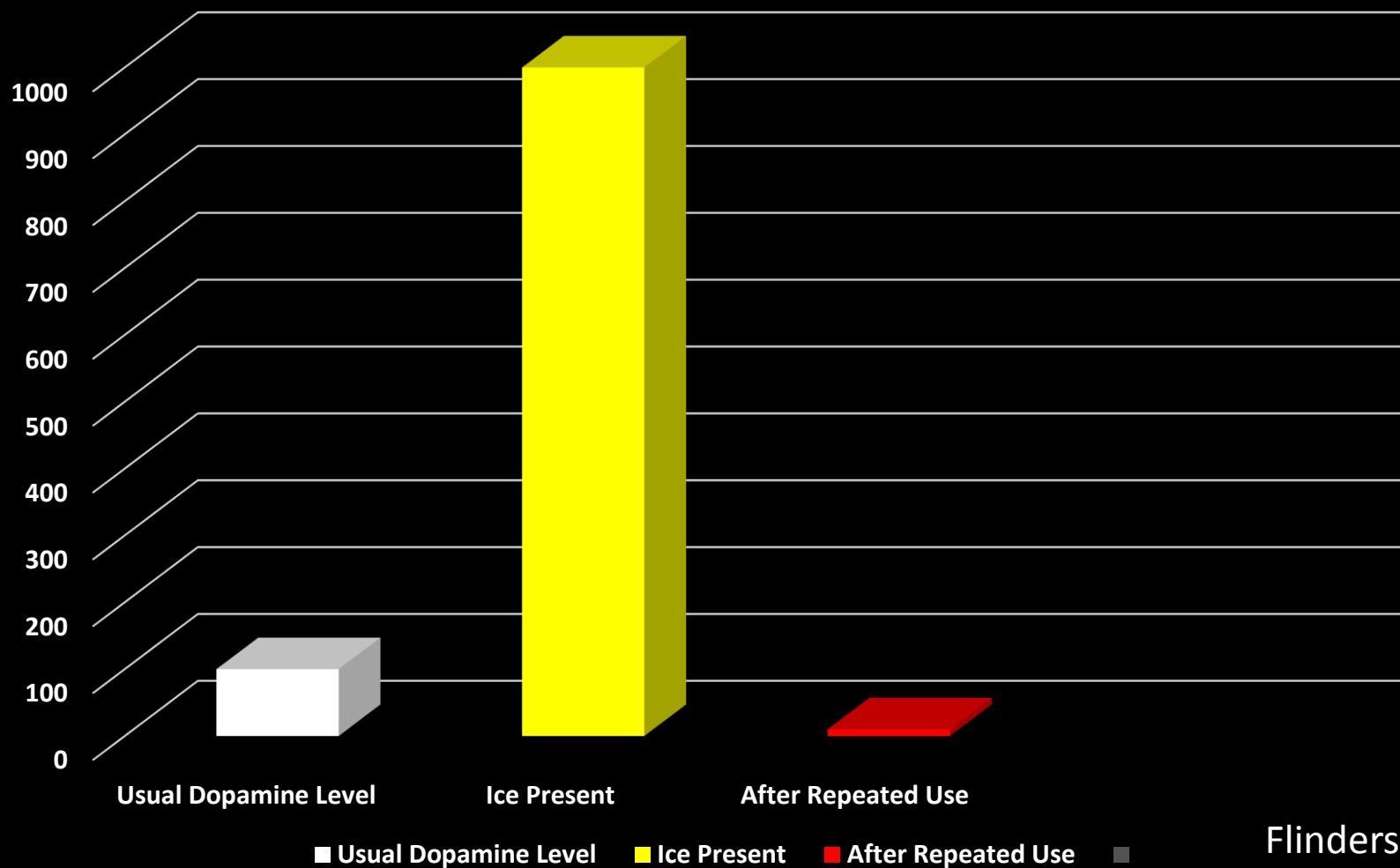
WHY IS ICE SO ADDICTIVE

- The “unshakeable memory”.
- More potent (stronger).
- Availability has increased (easier to get).
- Poor awareness of harms (better education needed).
- **More Risk Factors.**
- **Fewer Protective Factors.**

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The “unshakeable memory”

Dopamine Levels up to X12 times higher



Flinders University (2014)

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How Did It Get To This Point?

Law Enforcement

Eliminates supply to a degree but requires community support to eliminate demand.

AOD Treatment Services

Provides treatment services – Barriers to treatment include long waitlists, and severe lack of treatment services in N/W Tasmania, Circular Head and Smithton.

Education

Provides education to community and raises awareness of the harms associated with alcohol tobacco and other drug use (more needed).

Early Intervention / Prevention Services

Absence of preventative skills and resources to community, families, parents, individuals & drug and alcohol education to young people.

Residential Treatment Services

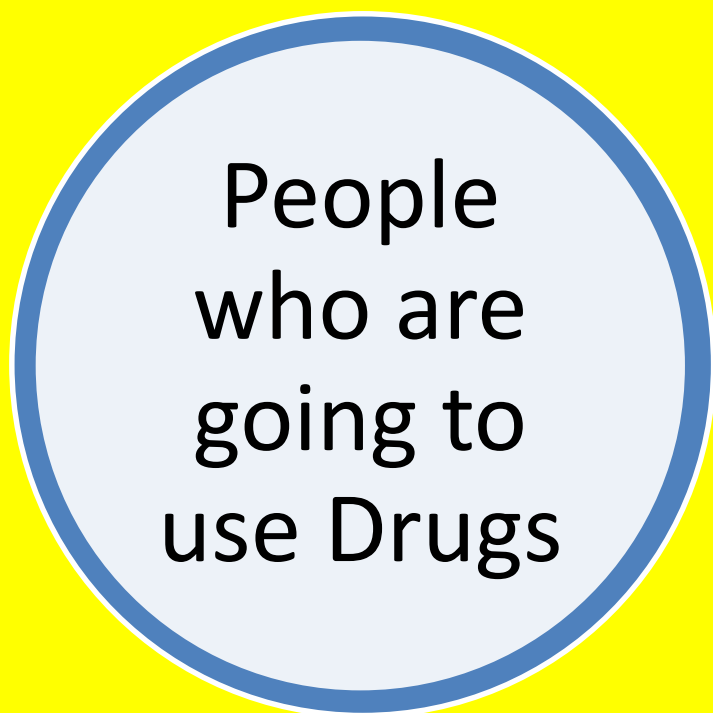
Absence of residential services North West.

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How Did It Get To This Point?

Prevention produces better outcomes &
long term Social and Economic benefits

Poor outcomes high long term
Physical, Psychological, Social and Economic harms



WHY PREVENTION?

- There is no supply without demand.
- Demand comes from the community.
- Prevention (eliminating demand) is the key.
- What does prevention look like?

Common Risk Factors For Substance Abuse

- **Desensitisation**
- Peers/Role models
- Empathy
- Acceptance
- Objectivity
- Resilience
- **Early attachment**
- Self esteem
- Confidence
- Creativity
- Independence
- Honesty
- Communication
- **Trauma - Abuse**
- Taking responsibility
- Appreciative
- Selfless
- Emotional regulation
- Respect
- Courage
- **Neglect**

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Physical & Behavioural Indicators Of ICE Use

- Pay attention to school, work and attendance
- Dilated Pupils / bloodshot eyes
- Paranoia
- Changes in sleeping habits: more / less
- Hyper activity / agitated
- Sweating without reason
- Aggressive or poor emotional regulation
- Changes in eating habits (not hungry)
- Changes in peers / new friends
- Selling or pawning personal property
- Changes in behaviour
- Changes in personal hygiene
- Has become unreliable, often late etc.
- Asking for money without being able to show anything for it.
- Stealing (other criminal activity)
- Frequent changes in mood
- Very talkative, may talk very fast
- Chewing or grinding teeth, dry mouth
- Weight loss
- Skin sores lesions
- Psychosis - mental illness

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Thankyou

A special thankyou to Circular Head Aboriginal Corp & Circular Head Council for all their support.

**For Drug and Alcohol counselling and support call
Rural Health Tasmania on
(03) 6452 1266**

**Donations to ICEHELP can be made at
www.givenow.com.au/ruralhealthtas**

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www.ruralhealthtas.com.au on the downloads page**

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