

ABOUT CRACKS IN THE ICE

ABOUT CRACKS IN THE ICE

Cracks in the Ice is an online toolkit providing trusted, evidence-based, and up-to-date information and resources about crystal methamphetamine (ice) for the Australian community.

In April 2015, the Commonwealth Government established a National Ice Taskforce to provide advice to Government on the impacts of ice (crystal methamphetamine) in Australia and actions needed to address this growing problem. The Final Report of this Taskforce stated that *“The first priority must be supporting families, workers and communities to better respond to people affected by ice.”* (Commonwealth of Australia, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Final Report of the National Ice Taskforce, 2015).

As part of a co-ordinated response to this need the Australian Government Department of Health funded development of Cracks in the Ice, an online toolkit to provide evidence-based information about ice (crystal methamphetamine) for the Australian community.

In 2017, Cracks in the Ice was recognised by the Australian Rotary Health Knowledge Dissemination Award at the Society for Mental Health Research Conference. The award was for excellence in bridging the gap between knowledge gained through research and the dissemination of that knowledge to clinicians, consumers and carers, and its implementation into policy and practice.

WHO IS BEHIND CRACKS IN THE ICE?

All factsheets and information contained on this website were developed following expert review by researchers at the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Mental Health and Substance Use, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW and the National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University.

Cracks in the Ice was informed by input from community members across Australia, and was developed in collaboration with researchers from:

- **NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Mental Health and Substance Use.**
- **National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre,** University of New South Wales.
- **National Drug Research Institute,** Curtin University

We would like to thank the individuals who so generously shared their experiences with us and allowed us to use their stories on this site. We would also like to acknowledge the many community members from around the country who provided their input and feedback during the development of this resource. Here are some of the things they had to say about *Cracks in the Ice*:

- "I think it is great, as it's important for people to feel like they are not alone."
- "It ties in with a non-judgemental approach to those who may be using, or intending to use, without alienating them."
- "It's easy to navigate for people who could be distressed and rushing to help a friend or family member."

For a full summary of results from the online consultation surveys we conducted with the Australian community, please [click here](#).

For more information about the website development process, please see the following publication:

Champion KE, Chapman C, Newton NC, Brierley ME, Stapinski L, Kay-Lambkin F, Nagle J, Teesson M. A Web-Based Toolkit to Provide Evidence-Based Resources About Crystal Methamphetamine for the Australian Community: Collaborative Development of Cracks in the Ice. *JMIR Ment Health* 2018;5(1):e21. DOI: [10.2196/mental.8891](https://doi.org/10.2196/mental.8891) PMID: [29559427](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29559427/)

©Katrina Elizabeth Champion, Cath Chapman, Nicola Clare Newton, Mary-Ellen Brierley, Lexine Stapinski, Frances Kay-Lambkin, Jack Nagle, Maree Teesson. Originally published in *JMIR Mental Health* (<http://mental.jmir.org>), 20.03.2018.

External Collaborators:



Mr Jack Nagle

Presenter, Media Commentator and Recovery Advocate, Real Drug Talk.

After playing basketball at a high level and being an incredibly fit and healthy young man; addiction took over Jack's life, taking his health, integrity and spirit out from underneath him, robbing his parents of a son and his brother of a role model.

From these experiences, Jack is extremely passionate about using the destruction of his past as his greatest asset to give hope of freedom to people suffering with addiction, educating the community with the sometimes confronting but shattering reality of addiction.



Ms Jenny Valentish

Journalist and author

Jenny is a journalist and author who has a keen interest in alcohol and other drug treatment and information dissemination. Jenny has a graduate certificate in Alcohol and Other Drugs from Turning Point/Monash University and recently published *Woman of Substances*, a book which investigates the female experience of drug use and draws on her own lived experience of alcohol and other drugs. Jenny was consulted to provide feedback on the Cracks in the Ice online toolkit from a lived experience perspective.

online services. With extensive experience working with non-profit organisations, Netfront is proud to support and be part of research and development work in health and education.

Gilimbaa

Gilimbaa is an Indigenous creative agency, born out of a passion to work with Indigenous art and story-telling and the elements it can bring to contemporary design and communication.



ABOUT CRACKS IN THE ICE MOBILE APP

The Cracks in the Ice mobile app is a condensed version of the Cracks in the Ice online toolkit designed for mobile and tablet devices. The app allows access to the online toolkit's key information, resources and functionalities even when users are offline*.

Click [here](#) to find out more about the app and to download it for free from iTunes or Google Play.

We would like to acknowledge the many community members from around the country who provided their feedback during the development of the Cracks in the Ice mobile app. For a full summary of results from the online consultation survey about the app, please [click here](#).

*Please note that while the app allows access to key content and functions when offline, some features and external web-links will still require internet access to function.

PHOTO CREDITS

We would like to acknowledge the photographers who generously donated their images to [Unsplash](#) for use by the public. We used images from the following photographers on the Cracks in the Ice online toolkit:

[Alexander Lam](#)

[Priscilla Du Preez](#)

[Vinicius Amano](#)

[Benjamin Combs](#)

[Felix Russell-Saw](#)

[Timothy Muza](#)

[Sergey Zolkin](#)

[Joshua Sazon](#)

[Hush Naidoo](#)

[LinkedIn Sales Navigator](#)

[rawpixel](#)

[Dylan Gillis](#)

Stock photos were also purchased from [iStock by Getty Images](#), [Fotolia](#) and [CanStock Photo](#).