

Withdrawal Management Quick Reference Guide (Amphetamines)



Centre for alcohol and other drug
training and workforce development

This resource is by Insight.

This resource provides health workers guidance for working with people experiencing amphetamine withdrawal (including methamphetamine).

SCREENING	Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS)				
	Record the answer that best represents the consumer's personal feelings towards their amphetamine use over the previous twelve months.				
	Did you ever think your amphetamines use was out of control?	Never or almost never (0)	Sometimes (1)	Often (2)	Always or nearly always (3)
	Did the prospect of not using amphetamines make you anxious or worried?	Never or almost never (0)	Sometimes (1)	Often (2)	Always or nearly always (3)
	How much did you worry about your use of amphetamines?	Never or almost never (0)	Sometimes (1)	Often (2)	Always or nearly always (3)
	Did you wish you could stop using amphetamines?	Never or almost never (0)	Sometimes (1)	Often (2)	Always or nearly always (3)
How difficult would you find it to stop or go without amphetamines?	Never or almost never (0)	Sometimes (1)	Often (2)	Always or nearly always (3)	
Amphetamines > 4 indicates dependence (Topp L, Mattick R. 1997).				Total	/15

Summary: The Withdrawal Management Quick Reference Guide provides guidance for health professionals working with clients experiencing **withdrawal** from amphetamines (including crystal methamphetamine 'ice'). The guide provides information and tools for the following phases of clinical practice: screening, assessment, monitoring, treatment, and follow up.

The guide also provides contact information for an alcohol and other drug clinical advisory service and relapse prevention support services available in Queensland. If you are a health professional working in a different State or Territory, please refer to our [When and where do I get help?](#) page for services and hotlines that are available nationwide.

Developers: This resource was developed by Insight.

Year: 2018. Last updated 2022.

Costs: Free

Evidence base: This resource has undergone expert review. Refer to the resource for full reference list.

[Access the Withdrawal Management Quick Reference Guide](#)