

Drug Endangered Child  
Training:  
Methamphetamine Awareness  
*Participant Guide*

Coming together to bring back  
their smiles.



## Acknowledgements

The online course and PDF version of *Drug Endangered Child Training: Methamphetamine Awareness and its subsequent modules* were developed by the Drug Endangered Child Training Network and are maintained on its website: <http://www.drugendangeredchild.org>.

**The Drug Endangered Child Training Network** is an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funded project that seeks to increase community and professional awareness of the impact of adult drug involvement on children. Additional funding provided by Operation UNITE.

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**NOTE**

This document was developed by the Drug Endangered Child Training Network. It was produced expressly **“For Training Purposes Only.”** It does not supersede nor amend any laws, policies, rules or established practices.

Any questions or concerns about the use of this document or its contents should be directed to:

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## More about the Drug Endangered Child Training Network:

### Vision Statement

Children who are living in families and in communities with high rates of substance abuse can benefit from a community team response that is based on evidence, best practice, and cooperation of all groups to rescue, shelter, defend, and protect children and to enhance their opportunities for health, education and lifelong well-being.

### Goals of DEC Training Network

- DEC teams will be formed and operating in each of the designated counties.
- Local medical personnel will identify, rescue, shelter and defend drug endangered children.
- 100% of children who are identified as “meth-exposed” receive evaluation and care according to the updated National Protocol.
- A database will contribute to your community’s ability to identify these children and provide state of the art evaluation and care.
- Community professionals will have access to the most current information related to diagnosis, evaluation, treatment and care of drug endangered children.

### Outcome of a DEC Team May Include:

- Physical and emotional protection of children.
- Breaking the cycle of child abuse.
- Protection of exposed child’s health.
- Establishment of community protocol through cooperation, sharing of information, and case coordination.
- Restoration of family.
- Facilitating communication between various agencies



## Introduction

### Welcome to Methamphetamine Awareness

This training is designed for first responders, protective services workers, medical and dental providers, legal professionals, public health workers, home visitors and other personnel.

If you are included in the groups listed above, you need to have a wide understanding of what methamphetamine is, why it is hazardous and how it is produced.

In addition, you should be aware of trends that impact your job and affect the way you respond to children in a drug endangered environment. Some parts of this training may apply more directly to you than to others, but all of it will have an impact – directly and indirectly – on children exposed to a methamphetamine environment.

The material in this training will help you better understand your role, the role of your organization, and the role of other responders and organizations in preventing, recognizing, and responding to a methamphetamine environment with respect to children.



## Completing the Training and Training Format

The training will provide an awareness-level introduction to methamphetamines and how it may affect the children in your community. It will also provide information that can potentially help assist you and your fellow responders to prepare for and respond to child-related methamphetamine incidents. It will not, however, answer all potential questions about children in a methamphetamine environment. It will not qualify you to enter a known hazardous area.

Please complete all training activities carefully as the information covered in this course may be critical to protecting the safety and well being of a child.

Arrows at the bottom right of each page allow you to move through the material. When a page is completed, use the right arrow to move to the next page. Use the left arrow to return to a previous page.

This training allows you to work at your own pace. It is strongly recommended that time be allotted to view all information and complete all activities that are provided. On some pages, there will be an option to select a button or link to view additional information. Please review all the information available on a particular page before continuing to the next one.

There will be a short quiz before and at the end of each module and a final examination when all modules are completed. Immediate feedback is given during each quiz to allow you to determine how much information was understood in the accompanying module. If there are multiple incorrectly answered questions, a review of that module will be suggested. It is recommended that you understand the material in each module well enough to answer most questions correctly before proceeding to the next module.

It is possible to stop working on the training and finish at a later time. To do this, log on from the same computer that was used for the initial login and then advance to the first uncompleted module.

Questions about the Certificate of Completion and Continuing Education Units for the training can be directed to Mark Schneider - [mark1@email.uky.edu](mailto:mark1@email.uky.edu) - at the Drug Endangered Child Training Network and the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center.

## Training Objectives

After completing the training the participant will be expected to:

- Know the difference between imported and domestically produced methamphetamine and its dangers to children;
- Know how to identify a situation indicating drug related endangerment of a child;
- Recognize things you can do to prevent, detect, and respond to a drug endangered child;
- Understand prevention and preparedness measures that can enhance the effectiveness of the response to a drug endangered child;
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of respective responder groups and the importance of these to the successful resolution of the case;
- Identify safety issues related to a narcotics response involving children and ways to respond to each other; and
- Recognize the effects of meth production and use on users and the link to various types of child abuse that may be associated with each stage of the use cycle.



Module Information and Objectives

<u>Module</u>	<u>Participant Type</u>	<u>Approximate Time to Complete</u>
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Module 1: The Basics of Meth	General	1 hour
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*All Participants must complete Module 1*

Module 2 depends upon which single discipline is selected. The options are:

Child Protective Services		1 hour
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Dental Professionals		1 hour
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Module 1 Objectives: The Basics of Meth

When the participant has completed this module they should be able to:

- Identify and respond to circumstances and conditions that constitute drug endangerment for children;
- Identify ways to cooperate with other professionals to ensure proper documentation of cases that may protect children from current and future harm;
- Develop a working knowledge of the national medical protocol for drug endangered children;
- Identify circumstances in which documentation is necessary; and
- Describe the addictive nature of methamphetamine.

Module 2: Child Protective Services

When the participant has completed this module they should be able to:

- Prepare in advance to handle dangerous meth-related situations;
- Scan the environment and document situations that may be harmful to children;
- Describe circumstances that constitute endangerment and recognize the appropriate response;
- Obtain skills necessary to protect children endangered by adult drug use and production; and
- Identify signs an adult may be under the influence and respond in a way that provides safety for you and identified crime victims.

Module 2: The Dental Professional

When the participant has completed this module they should be able to:

- Understand the basic issues surrounding methamphetamine use – health care costs associated with meth, addictiveness of meth, hazards of meth use, abuse and production, and the plight of the drug endangered child;
- Recognize the meth addict, diagnose meth mouth, and identify treatment options for meth mouth;
- Understand and identify the oral manifestations of abuse and neglect in the drug endangered child;
- Recognize some things you can do to prevent, detect, and respond to a drug endangered child; and
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of the dental professional in responding to the drug endangered child.

## Continuing Education Units

A certificate of completion indicating the Continuing Education Units for the training can be printed after successful completion of the course and the certification test.

The final test consists of 25 multiple choice, matching and true/false questions. A minimum score of 72% correct on the test is required for completion. Please note that the final test is only available after the conclusion of module 1 and the appropriate professional module. It is not possible to skip directly to the tests.

There is no charge to obtain the continuing education credit. Certificates of completion and Continuing Education Units can be accessed by the participant at any time following the successful completion of the training.

Questions about the Certificate of Completion and Continuing Education Units for the training can be directed to Mark Schneider - [mark1@email.uky.edu](mailto:mark1@email.uky.edu) - at the Drug Endangered Child Training Network and the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center.



## About the Online Training and Participant Guide

This training was developed by the Drug Endangered Child Training Network, an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funded project that seeks to increase community and professional awareness of the impact of adult drug involvement on children.

The training was developed specifically to assist professionals in understanding that drug endangerment cases involving methamphetamine require a collaborative response if children are to be rescued, protected and provided services that prevent future injury or harm.

From the point of crisis to one year after the event, medical and response protocols exist to describe evaluations and follow up examinations necessary for children's' health and well being. However, without proper documentation that is a result of proper evidence collection, crime scene documentation and comprehensive child assessment, children are likely to slip through the cracks.

Drug crimes are NOT victimless crimes. These training modules will take the participant through the continuum, starting from understanding the basics of methamphetamine to specific protocol of responding professionals.

The trajectory of a child's life can be changed by coordination of efforts by law enforcement, EMS, child protective services, prosecutors, public health, medical and dental professionals, educators, and mental health providers.

Meth has brought to the nation acute awareness of the dangers adult drug use poses to children. It is our duty to apply this knowledge to protect children.

The Methamphetamine Awareness Participant Guide includes selected review questions found in the online training modules. They are intended to help you identify the key points in each module and develop your knowledge about specific areas related to working with drug endangered children. You may answer the questions as you proceed through the training modules. You will answer the questions on the separate answer sheet provided.

When you have completed all selected questions in the participant guide as well as the module questions online, please submit the answer sheet to your Facilitator or designee, along with the completed Participant Evaluation Form and the certificate of completion that is the last page of your Participant Guide. Your facilitator or designee will record your completion of the training, sign your certificate, and return your certificate and corrected answer sheet.

## Beginning the Web Training

### 1. Access the Participant Guide

- Go to the DECTN website: [www.drugendangeredchild.org](http://www.drugendangeredchild.org)
- Click on online courses
- Click on Methamphetamine Awareness Participant Guide
- Print the Participant Guide

### 2. Register for the Web Training

- Notice the “installation complete message” you received by clicking the online courses tab
- Next click “click here” to access the online training modules
- Select the meth course most appropriate for you
- Register by typing your last name and the last 4 digits of your social security number without a space between the name and numbers (example: smith7865). Residents of Canada may use their last name and the last 4 digits of their social insurance number.
- Participants should do this each time they access the training from the SAME computer. The login is UPPER/lower case sensitive.

### 3. Begin the Web training

- Begin by reading the welcome and introduction
- Enter any requested information
- Complete the Pre-test
- Click on Module 1: The Basics of Meth
- Following successful completion of Module 1, the participant may then proceed to other appropriate professional modules by clicking on the module name



## Maximizing the Benefits of Online Training

The DECTN is excited to offer participants the opportunity to learn about methamphetamine through online training.

Some benefits of online training for professionals are:

- Ability to self-schedule.
- Ability to self-pace.
- Convenience of taking the training in the office.
- Eliminates mileage, lodging and meal expenses
- Immediate access to training and other online resources.
- Flexibility to balance workload with the training.
- Portability of the Participant Guide

The participant may stop and resume the online training at any time on the same computer in which the participant began.

Along with the benefits comes increased responsibility for the professional to manage the self-training. Because adults learn differently, online learning may involve some challenges not normally present in classroom training.

To complete the training in a timely way, the participant may need to:

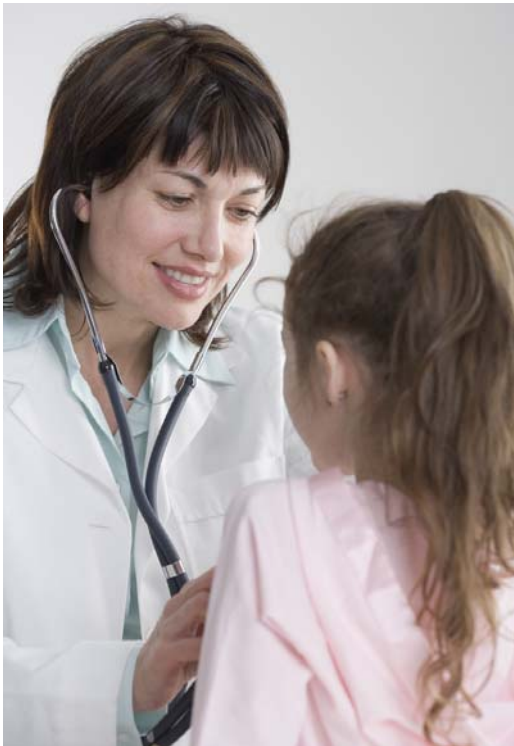
1. Limit distractions.
  - Set aside a particular time to work on the training.
  - Turn off the ringer on their phone.
  - Collaborate with their supervisor to schedule the online work.
2. Schedule their training in a way that fits with the way they learn best.
  - On their own
  - With a co-worker.
  - With a team.
  - One module at a time.
  - All at once.
3. Translate learning into practice.
  - Evaluate how they can use some of the recommended strategies and tools in their work.
  - Use the information, charts and graphs provided with families and community partners, when appropriate.
  - Discuss the information with their supervisor and co-workers.

### After Finishing the Training

The participant must complete the selected review Questions and the questions from the online modules and record the responses on the Answer Sheet. The participant must be sure to write their name on each page of the Answer Sheet.

- Enter the participant name on the Certificate of Completion
- Make a copy of the Answer Sheet and the Certificate of Completion for the participants records
- Complete the Course Evaluation.
- Submit the Answer Sheet, signed certificate, and evaluation form to the facilitator or designee.

The Facilitator or designee will correct the answer sheet, record the completion of the training, sign the certificate, and return these to the participant.



## Selected Module Review Questions

### Module 1: Basics of Meth

#### True or False

1. Meth labs are highly complicated systems that only trained chemists can construct. \_\_\_\_\_
2. People who are addicted to meth go through an identifiable use cycle. \_\_\_\_\_

#### Multiple Choice

1. This type of evidence of criminal activity is often found in drug labs:
  - a. pornography
  - b. weapons
  - c. both a and b
2. It is important for medical personnel to do this medical procedure on a child found at a drug lab:
  - a. collect urine for toxicology exam
  - b. eye exam
  - c. hearing exam
3. Children of addicts have a greater risk of:
  - a. becoming addicts themselves
  - b. getting involved in criminal activity
  - c. both a and b

### Module 2: Child Protective Services

#### Multiple Choice

1. Social service professionals might recognize a meth user by observing behaviors such as:
  - a. aggressiveness
  - b. slow speech
  - c. neither a or b
2. Before making a home visit where a person might be abusing meth, a social service professional should:
  - a. call the fire department in case the home is also a meth lab
  - b. ask a colleague to go instead
  - c. call law enforcement and coordinate activities with them
3. If the social service professional suspects they are speaking with a meth user:
  - a. always ask them if they want to get treatment
  - b. never be concerned with the amount of time you spend assessing them
  - c. stay calm and exhibit professional, non threatening demeanor

True or False

1. 85% of children removed from meth lab homes test positive for methamphetamine within 12 hours of removal. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Methamphetamine use, abuse, selling and production in a home pose an imminent risk to children. \_\_\_\_\_

Module 2: Dental ProfessionalsTrue or False

1. Federal and state prisons have not seen any change in the cost of the health care of inmates due to methamphetamine use. \_\_\_\_\_
2. A distinctive pattern of decay on the buccal smooth surface of the teeth and the interproximal surfaces of the anterior teeth can be found in meth users. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Using methamphetamine can increase salivary flow in the user. \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Choice

1. One of the 4 recommended steps in identifying a suspected case of child abuse or neglect is:
  - a. ask the adult that accompanied the child to the dental office if they are abused
  - b. don't pay any attention to the child's behavior when they are in the office
  - c. along with an Orofacial examination perform a general physical assessment of the child
2. Dental professionals who want to report a suspected case of abuse should:
  - a. Make sure they have documented the case thoroughly in the patients record
  - b. Not be afraid to contact social services or law enforcement for help – mandated reporter immunity exists in every state
  - c. Both a and b

Participant Answer Sheet

Module 1: Basics of Meth

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Module 2: Selected Professional Module

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

