Speed
(amphetamines)

LEGAL STATUS: Illegal
CLASS B
CLASS A if prepared for injection
Available as a medicine if appropriately prescribed

OTHER NAMES/SLANG:
Amph, aimies, B-bombs, dexies, pep pills, speed, sweeties, whiz.

USUALLY FOUND AS:
Off-white or pinkish powder, tablets or capsules.

HOW IT'S TAKEN:
Powder sniffed up the nose, rubbed onto the gums or injected; sometimes dissolved in a drink. Some pills and capsules by mouth.

SIGNS OF POSSIBLE USE:
Finding small white pills, off-white or pinkish powder, crystals.

EFFECTS ON USER:
Increase in energy, confidence and concentration. Effects of use can include severe mood swings, a dry mouth, lack of appetite and inability to sleep, aggressive behaviour, itching, or feelings of acute anxiety or paranoia.

Worth knowing…
- Amphetamines stimulate the nervous system and can be linked to heart attacks and other medical problems
- Amphetamine powder bought on the street has the lowest purity of any illegal drug
- Many heavy amphetamine users have bad teeth because the drug leaches calcium from the body and causes jaw clenching and teeth grinding
- Methamphetamine (crystal meth) is increasingly available in crystal form, which produces a quick, hard hit when smoked. This can often lead to intense paranoia and a very unpleasant comedown.

Actual size

'Drugs' refers to **all drugs**, including **medicines**, **volatile substances**, **alcohol**, **tobacco** and **illegal drugs**.