

GUIDELINES FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS: AMPHETAMINE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT



**ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL**
MELBOURNE

A FACILITY OF ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA

Summary: These guidelines provide basic information for frontline workers in hospitals on how to assess and manage patients presenting with amphetamine-type intoxication (including crystal methamphetamine 'ice' intoxication), as well as guidelines for longer-term management and intervention.

The guidelines include information to assist with:

- Assessing whether a client is experiencing intoxication, toxicity or **withdrawal**
- Managing medical complications
- Dealing with amphetamine-induced behavioural disturbances
- Identifying patterns of use, comorbidities and risk factors for individual clients
- Planning interventions and treating clients of different dependency levels

Developers: These guidelines were developed by Nexus (Concurrent Mental Illness & Substance Use Advisory Service), a component of the Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative (VDDI) at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne.

Year: 2014

Costs: Free

Evidence base: This resource has undergone expert review.

[Access the Assessment and Management Guidelines for Frontline Workers](#)