Methamphetamine destroys the mind and body. Jail photos show only a hint of the drug’s devastation. Meth eats away at brain tissue, accelerates blood pressure, creates psychosis and causes the body to overheat. Teeth fall out. The body stops craving food, and only wants the drug.

One addict said it’s the closest thing to becoming a living zombie. “I can’t stand to look at myself in the mirror,” she says.

Read “The Faces of Meth” and The Oregonian’s other stories examining Oregon’s methamphetamine epidemic at www.oregonlive.com/special/oregonian/meth/

For more information about meth and treating addiction:

Oregon Partnership at www.methawarenessproject.org or 877-553-TEEN

In Oregon, the Alcohol and Drug Help Line: 800-923-4357

On the Web, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration directory of treatment providers: www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov

The faces of meth before and after

October 1999 and 5 years later

June 2001 and 3 years, 5 months later

July 2003 and 17 months later

December 1999 and 3 months later