

Jane Doe knows she should take the medications the doctor prescribes, but they make her tired. When she falls asleep she has a hard time waking up. Living in an Independent Living Home, she is scared of victimization by other residents, so instead of her medications, she takes methamphetamine. She believes the methamphetamine makes her feel better and stay up all night so she is safer. She doesn't care that the methamphetamine has a negative effect on other aspects of her life.

Jane has been through rehab several times. She does well while in the facility, but reverts back to substance use when she returns to the community. She doesn't understand why other people care if she does drugs; she is only hurting herself. She snorts, smokes and injects methamphetamine.

Jane has very few people she considers "friends." The people she calls friends are usually only around to give her or receive methamphetamine from her. She has an "on and off" boyfriend that she gets high with. He has given her several sexually transmitted diseases, some of which she has received treatment for. She is hepatitis C and HIV positive. When she is not with her boyfriend, she sometimes has sexual relations with other drug users, especially if it means scoring methamphetamine.

Jane has been arrested several times for theft, drugs, and violence. She always seems to be under the influence when contacted by police. Sometimes she doesn't remember the police contacts, or has "memories" of the arrest that are very different from the police report. She has been taken to County Mental Health several times upon arrest for bizarre behaviors. When left at CMH, she is usually out within 24 hours, after her symptoms "resolve" with strong medications.

Item: foil, spoon

How do you feel about arresting this woman?

What mental health issues do you think she may be experiencing?

What do you think the item represents to her?