

Workshop #1: Pharmacology, Detection, and Control Actions of Synthetic Drugs

Date: Monday, October 30

Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Cost:

MEMBER RATES		
Early Bird Registration June 1 – Aug 31 \$150	Late Registration Begins Sept 1 \$175	On-site Registration Begins October 11 \$200
NON – MEMBER AND DAILY RATES		
Early Bird Registration June 1 – Aug 31 \$200	Late Registration Begins Sept 1 \$225	On-site Registration Begins October 11 \$250

Chairs

Jonna Berry, PhD

Criminalist

Iowa DCI Criminalistics Laboratory

berry@dps.state.ia.us

Justin Grodnitzky

Criminalist

Iowa DCI Criminalistics Laboratory

grodnitzk@dps.state.ia.us

Abstract

Following the proliferation of synthetic drugs including synthetic cannabinoids, cathinones, hallucinogens, and opioids over the last decade, consolidation and sharing of data became vital to staying abreast of drug trends. By combining toxicology results, along with pharmacological studies, and drug seizure information, informed decisions on control actions and public health alerts are possible. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) began their Toxicology Testing Program (DEA TOX) in May 2019 as a surveillance program aimed at detecting these novel substances within the United States. In collaboration with the contracted lab at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), DEA has been analyzing submitted samples from hospitals, multiple poison centers, law enforcement, medical examiners, and public health entities across the country with the goal of better understanding the current patterns of drug abuse. The program allows pairing of the toxicology results of overdose events with their specific adverse effects and clinical outcomes. These data may be utilized to better inform policy decisions while providing toxicology results to submitting entities and simultaneously issuing publicly accessible quarterly reports to help inform the community of the present dangers from drug abuse. This workshop will pair the class-specific pharmacology of synthetic drugs with toxicology results and case reports to bridge the current drug abuse landscape between law enforcement, the laboratory, and the overdose victims.

Learning Objectives

1. To gain a better understanding of the process by which DEA collects data, the drug control scheduling process, and the various uses for drug abuse data and toxicology results.
2. To delve into the basic pharmacological principles and underlying mechanisms of action for various synthetic drug classes including synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic cathinones and other stimulants, hallucinogens, and synthetic opioids.
3. To compare toxicological results from synthetic drug overdose cases and their clinical effects and outcomes while exploring the advanced methods for detection of various substances in both biological fluids and drug evidence.

Faculty

Bryan Ruggery, MFS, D-ABFT-FT
Drug Science Specialist
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Theresa Carbonaro, PhD
Pharmacologist
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Jordan Trecki, PhD
Pharmacologist
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Roy Gerona, MS, PhD
Associate Professor
University of California at San Francisco (UCSF)

Audience Knowledge Level

Intermediate - Involves more advanced concepts requiring some technical working knowledge or prior exposure to the subject matter

Workshop Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:00-8:30 am	U.S. Regulatory and International Control	Bryan Ruggery
8:30-9:00 am	Intro to Pharmacology	Theresa Carbonaro
9:00-9:30 am	Synthetic Cathinones and Hallucinogens	Theresa Carbonaro
9:30-10:00 am	Synthetic Cannabinoids	Jordan Trecki
10:00-10:30 am	Break	
10:30-11:00 am	Synthetic Opioids	Jordan Trecki
11:00-11:30 am	DEA TOX Methodology and Recent Trends	Roy Gerona, MS
11:30-12:00 pm	Q & A	All