

The practices of handling and analysing NPS



NPS Characteristics & challenges

Not homogeneous and ambiguous legal status	INVESTIGATION / CONTROL
Unsuspected packaging	CONTROL / RECOGNITION
Disguised in mixed composition	RECOGNITION
Rapid and transient presence in the market	IDENTIFICATION
Traded/trafficked in small quantity, on the Internet and by post	CONTROL / IDENTIFICATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

To develop LEAs specialized units on NPS at national level and to increase the synergy between drugs units and cyber-crime units in order to foster online investigations.

To improve the capacity to establish permanent procedures of cooperation specifically focused on NPS,

To allow a wider access to Worldwide and national databases and to facilitate the exploitation of information

To create a European database of NPS factsheets.

To promote a continuous exchange of information between LEAs laboratories at European level, especially through long term projects.

To increase the collaboration between LEAs and forensic laboratories with those healthcare professionals and services that treat intoxicated people.

To create a European central cheminformatic database on NPS.

To promote the harmonization of the operating procedures at European level.

To facilitate the exchange of NPS standards at international level.

To improve the procedures of validation of analytical data from national laboratories collected by national focal points and EMCDDA and recorded in the EDND.

To support the forensic community in the development of research on NPS based on test purchasing.

To implement continuous training programmes on NPS at national and international level.

