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**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION  
CICAD**

**SIXTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
April 24-26, 2017  
Washington, D.C.**

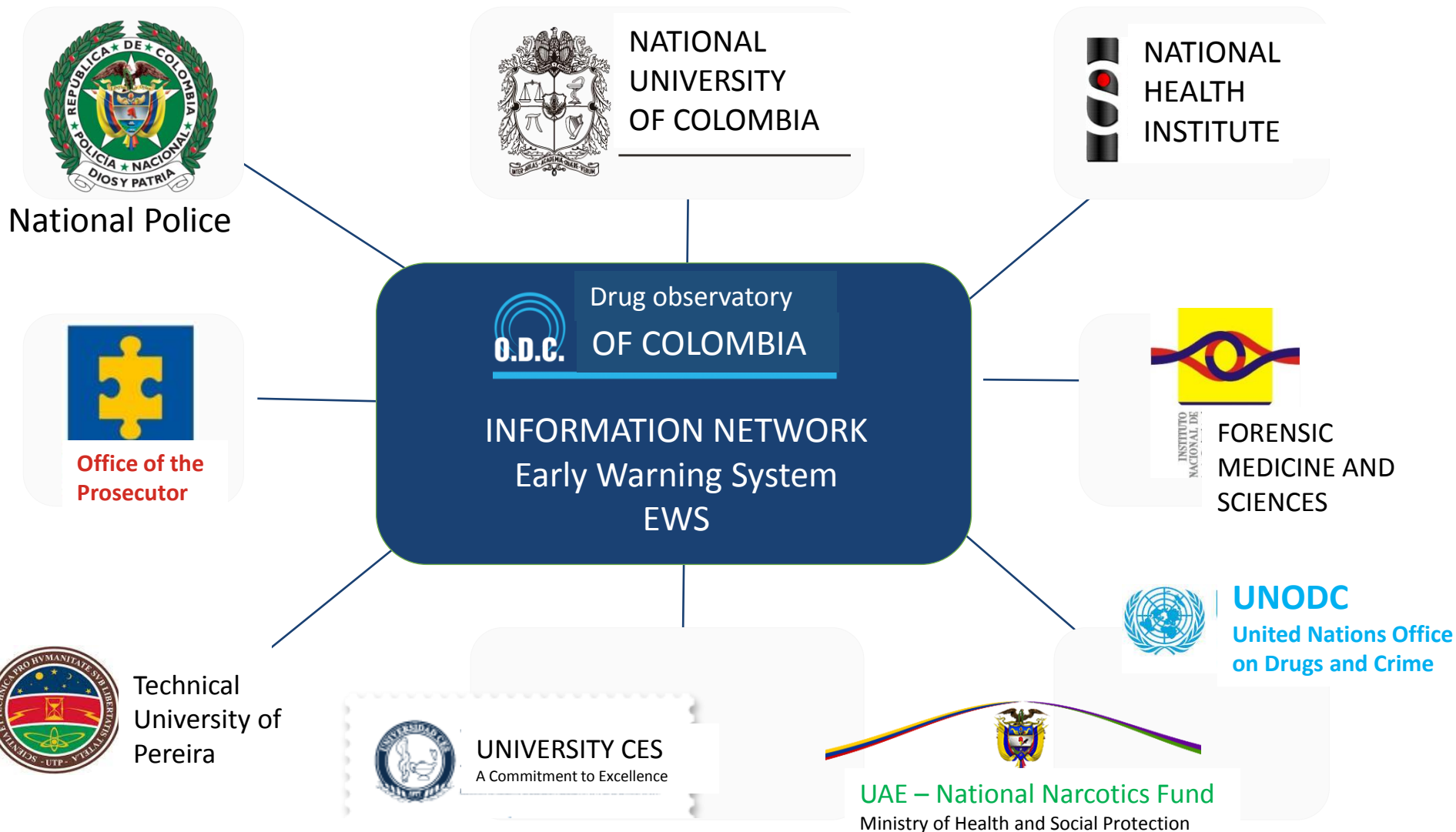
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**EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS ON DRUGS IN COLOMBIA**

# Early Warning Systems on Drugs in Colombia

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**Office of Drug Policy and Related Activities**





La Red de información consolida, analiza y difunde información sobre drogas.

## DEFINITION AND OBJECTIVES

The Early Warning System – EWS of the Colombian Observatory on Drugs COD, has as its primary objective, to reduce the impact of New Psychoactive Substances NPS, and emerging substances, through early detection, risk evaluation and the generation of reliable information aimed at authorities and the community in general.

**The primary aim of the EWS is to prevent or reduce the risks associated with these types of substances, from a public health perspective. \*\***

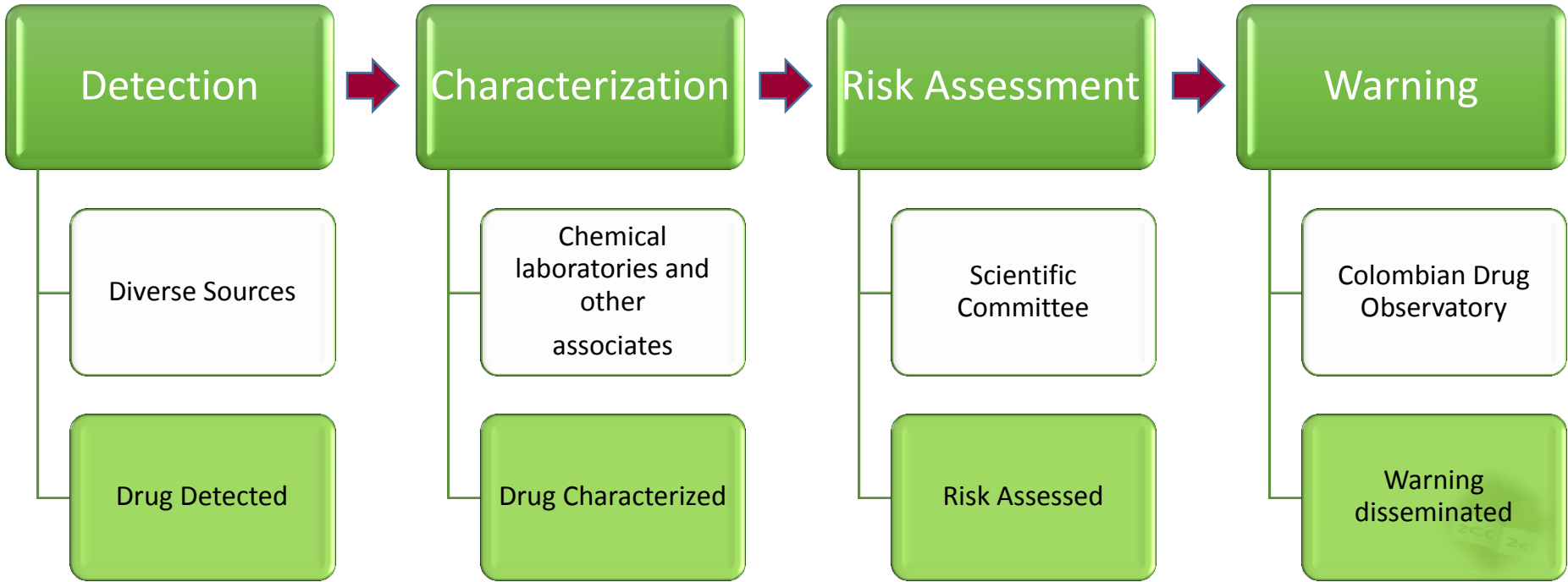
## EMERGING DRUGS



These are new drugs that enter into the market, regardless of whether they are natural or synthetic, controlled or not, new forms of presentation of drugs, or new adulterants. Drugs that are experiencing a sudden changes in the patterns of use, representing a resurgence and increase of drugs that were historically of low use may also be considered emerging drugs.

**NATURAL OR NOT  
CONTROLLED OR NOT  
NEW OR NOT**

# Phases



INITIATION

- 1a Seizure
- 1b Suspicion of Emerging Drug on streets
- 1c Targeted Research Studies
- 1d Notifications of other governments & Organizations
- 1e Active search on internet and others
- 1f Cases of overdose, deaths or accidents associated with presumed ED

2 Notification to C.O.D

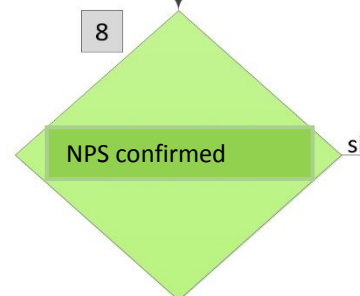
3 Seek samples of ED on streets

4 Deliver DE samples to forensic Lab

5 Chemical analysis or bio sample of presumed ED

6 Chemical analysis results

7 Email notification to C.O.D.



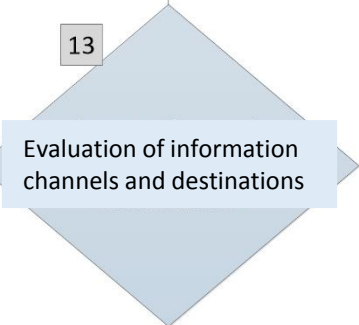
9 Findings brought to technical committee

10 Comprehensive Characterization of NPS

11 Risk Assessment

12 Doc on characterization with suggestions from committee

- Communications
- National Police
- Emergency Service
- Forensic & Toxicological labs
- Departmental committees
- NGO's & treatment services
- Global SMART
- EWA
- Unasur



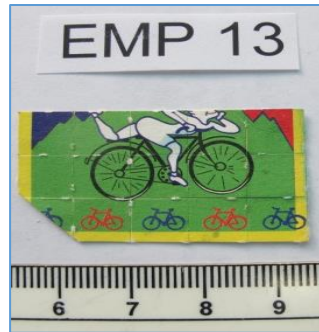
- National Police
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14 Broad dissemination of emerging drug alert

15 Closed diffusion of alert on emerging drug

FIN

# NBOMe

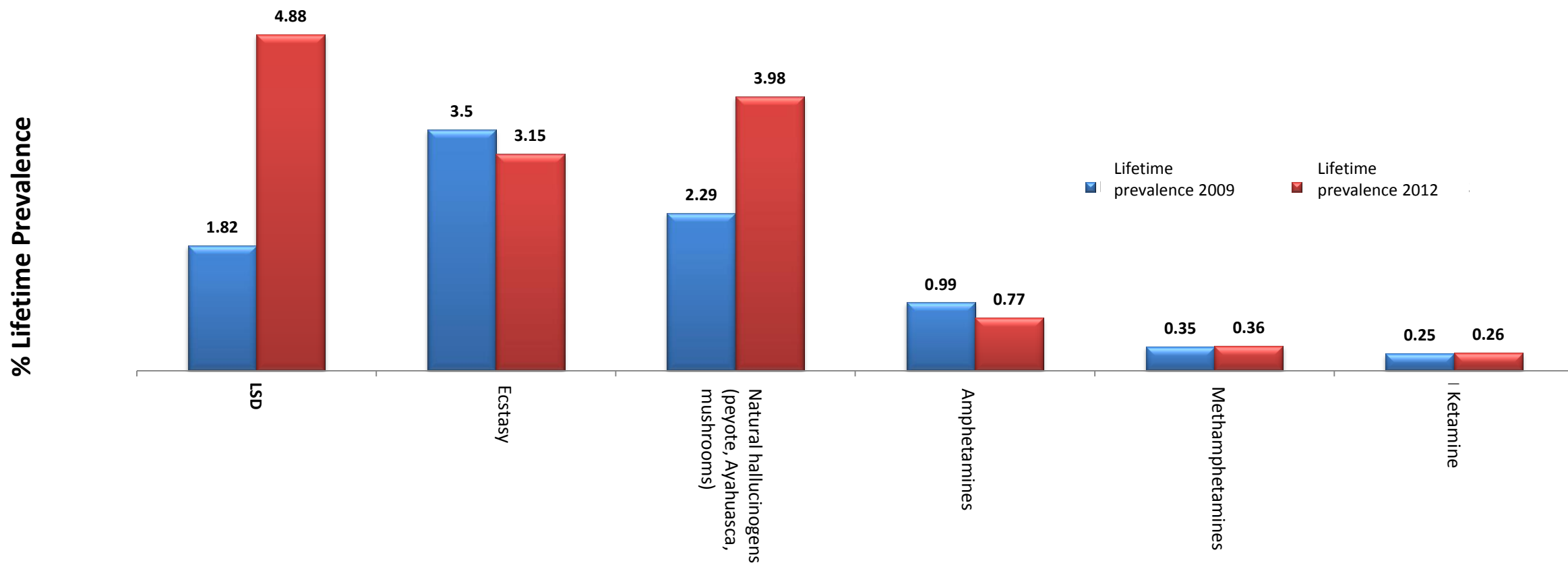


25B-NBOMe  
25C-NBOMe  
25D-NBOMe  
25G-NBOMe  
25H-NBOMe  
25I-NBOMe

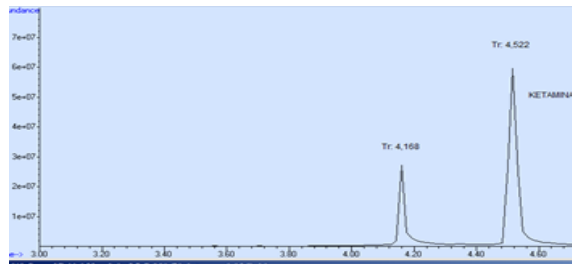
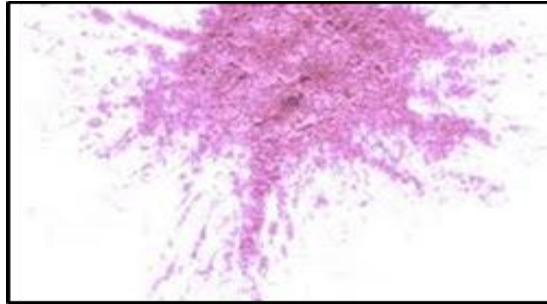
In 2013, the Colombian EWS detected the presence of 2 NBOMe group molecules in samples sold as LSD in Bogota, Pereira and Armenia.  
From that point on, it has become commonplace to find false LSD with substances from this group.



## Evolution of synthetic drug use among university students



# KETAMINE – 2CB



- The CTI Chemical Laboratory of the Attorney General's office analyzed the different samples using gas chromatography on the 2C-B used in the country.
- Ketamine is an addictive drug with serious health effects.

- 2C-B is a synthetic hallucinogen of the **phenethylamine** group controlled at the national and international levels.
- There are two known cases of seizures in 2013 of 3 thousand and 4 thousand doses respectively, of a drug supposedly sold as 2C-B in the Valle del Cauca.
- The drug is sold in the country as a colored powders that are swallowed or inhaled. It is offered as an exclusive drug, costing more than 100 thousand pesos per gram.



# INHALANTS

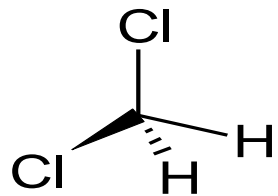


Studies on psychoactive substance use have confirmed the presence of non-traditional substances, such as the use of DICK and POPPERS.

DICK is a substance that contains methylene chloride present in a number of commercial products such as stain remover, paint thinners, and others, its use may cause a reduction of oxygen in the blood and seriously affect the skin.

Popper is the generic name for certain chemical substances such as alkyl nitrites. It is colorless with a characteristically strong odor.

Continuous use of these substances can cause neurological damage and temporarily alter vision.



**Past year prevalence of any drug by department  
(5 territorial areas of highest use)**

Substance	Department				
	Antioquia	Bogotá	Caldas	Quindío	Risaralda
Marijuana	<b>10.97</b>	<b>7.36</b>	<b>9.37</b>	<b>7.39</b>	<b>9.57</b>
Cocaine	2.87	2.99	2.21	2.99	2.09
Solvents	1.69	3.01	2.48	2.58	2.40
Ecstasy	1.13	1.16	1.27	1.70	1.08
Dick	3.10	<b>5.77</b>	<b>6.62</b>	<b>8.46</b>	<b>5.97</b>
Popper	2.86	1.74	3.86	3.07	2.26
Basuco	0.56	0.87	0.38	0.43	0.74
Hallucinogens	2.00	1.38	1.64	1.43	1.43
<b>Any substance</b>	<b>14.26</b>	<b>13.31</b>	<b>14.34</b>	<b>14.17</b>	<b>13.99</b>



# SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS(SC): first case in Colombia

Currently, around 180 NPS from the SC family have been detected, which mimic the effects of natural cannabis and represent high prevalence among the younger population in countries such as the USA and UK.

At the worldwide level seizures have increased as well as emergency room visits.

It has the highest THC potency and produces greater toxicity, withdrawal symptoms have been confirmed. Scientific literature has documented deaths associated with the use of AM 2201.

In Colombia for the first time, sales of SC have been detected in the city of Cali, which is sold through social networks and by sending to households: **AM 2201**



# PMMA



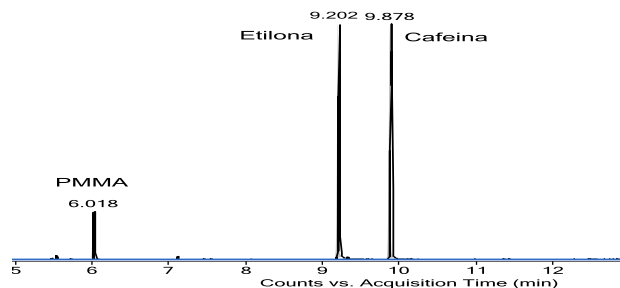
**P-metoximetamphetamine** (PMMA) is a drug synthesized by Shulgin and described in his book PIHKAL, which causes a high level of toxicity and risk when consumed, and has been associated with fatalities in a number of countries.

In Norway (July 2010-January 2011) 12 fatal intoxications and 22 non-fatal.

In Taiwan (April and July 2006) 8 deaths associated with use among young people.

In Europe (December 2014-March 2015) 4 deaths under investigation for the consumption of pressed pills with the logo *Superman* which contained PMMA.

In Colombia, the forensic laboratories in Bogotá, Medellín and Bucaramanga detected the presence of PMMA between 2013 and 2014. Some of the pressed pills had “happy face”, “playboy” and “alien” logos.



# PMMA

*“PMMA is a toxic substance. Its use is directly related to cases of fatal intoxication in many countries in Europe in the past month, for example in the United Kingdom and in Sweden. These countries have alerted to the presence of pink pills with the Superman logo on both sides and very high levels of PMMA.*

*PMMA is a much more toxic substance than MDMA or ecstasy. It is very important to keep in mind that the fatal dose of PMMA is relatively low. There have been cases of intoxication with less than 50 milligrams and the doses found in these pills (140 mg.) is much higher. In addition they appear to be mixed with amphetamine and this can aggravate the toxic effects”.*

Energy Control



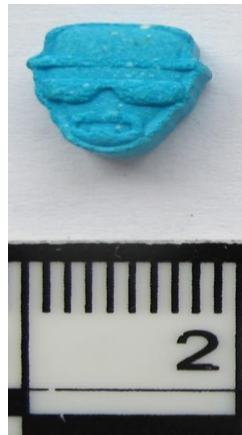


# DOC and DOI: Synthetic Hallucinogens sold as LSD

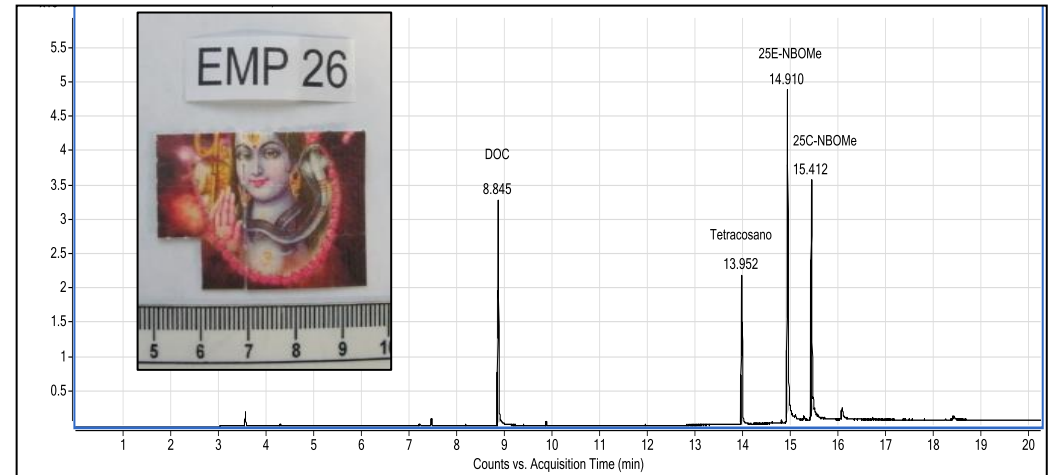
Forensic labs in Bogota and Medellin confirmed detection of a new substance found in stamps as an LSD substitute.



DOC



DOI



In more recent reports, this same substance has been detected also being used as an adulterant in pressed ecstasy pills.

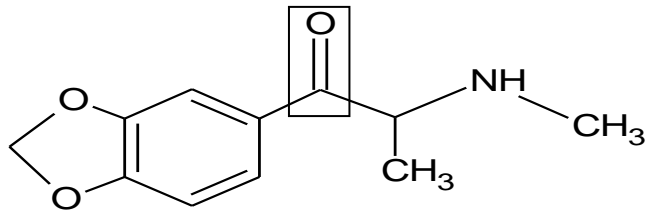
These are a series of drugs whose risks are unknown given the small amount of research that has been done, however, due to its high potency it is estimated that it could be higher risk than either LSD or MDMA.

Deaths have been associated, including a case in Colombia.

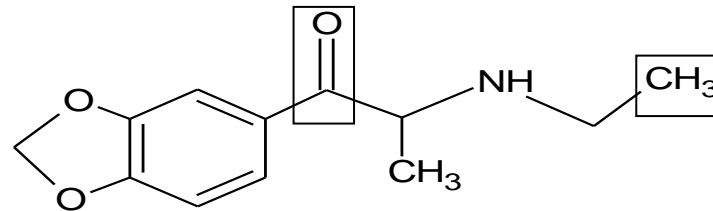


# CATHINONES

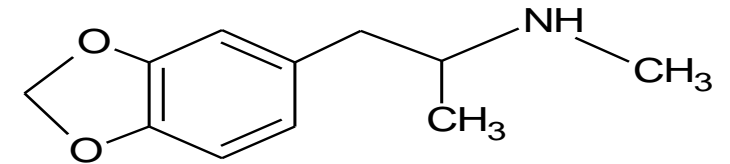
## Family of Synthetic Cathinones:



Methylone



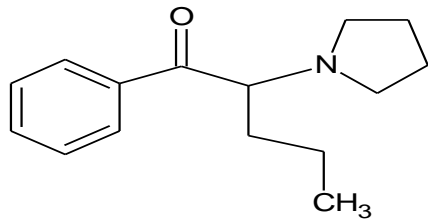
Ethylone



MDMA



$\alpha$ -PVP (Flakka)



Stimulants similar to amphetamines.

70 cathinones have been reported worldwide.

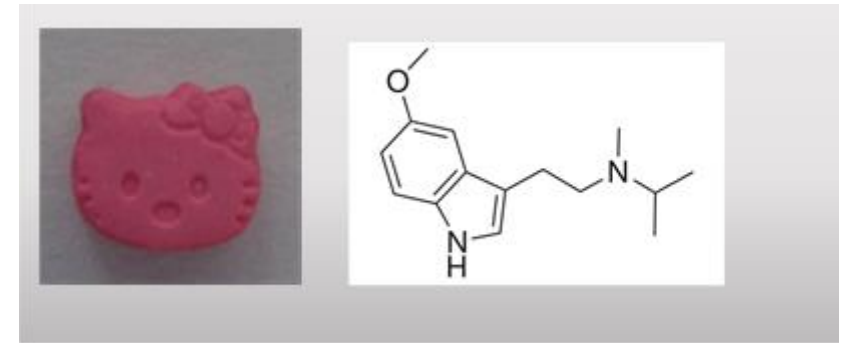
EMCDDA reports of 99 deaths.

April 2015 the Police Department of Fort Lauderdale FL, and the Office of the Sheriff of Fort Lauderdale in Broward County Florida, launched an alert on the appearance and seizure of a new drug known as "FLAKKA", ...*"The individual becomes psychotic, usually they would rip off clothes , and run around, behave violently, hallucinate and are delirious..."* ..... *"addiction is good for business and flakka use is addictive."*

# SALVIA DIVINORUM

2ce (DOET) (phenethylamine)  
5-MeO-MiPT (tryptamine)

Description of the characteristics of the market and the chemical composition of synthetic drugs in Colombia.



False LSD  
False 2CB



## CONSOLODATED FINDINGS OF THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

- In Colombia about 24 NPS have been identified.
- There is no evidence of synthetic drug production in the country.
- The most common detected substances are NBOMe type hallucinogens and Ketamine.
- Vegetable based psychoactive substances have been detected: mushrooms, Cacao Sabanero
- Marijuana with high THC concentrations and high purity heroin
- According to available information, in the majority of cases, NPS figure on use does not appear alarming, but it may have an impact on health

# Why an Early Warning System?

- To understand the NPS situation

- To make informed decisions – Generate public policy responses
- Adjust legal frameworks

- Alert interdiction authorities

- The public health perspective
- The primary challenge is to use information to reduce risks and harms
- Educate users



Buscar



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circular. Descargue la imagen y compártala, puede salvar una vida. <http://bit.ly/2ilAW5o>



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👍❤️😱 380 1 comentario 67 veces compartido



👍 Me gusta    💬 Comentar    ➦ Compartir

90.328 personas alcanzadas

Editar promoción



## Advances

- Resolution of the National Narcotics Council
- Inter-institutional network consolidated
- Strengthened forensic laboratories through training and provision of guidelines
- Chemical composition studies on substances
- Bill to modify National Narcotics Statute

## Challenges

- Strengthening institutional capacities
- Prevention, treatment and harm reduction
- Improve reporting on adverse events
- Transmitting information to young people and persons at risk



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**Dirección de Política de Drogas y Actividades Relacionadas**

