



**OAS** | **CICAD**



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

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

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21 April 2017  
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**EARLY WARNING SYSTEM- EWSDRUGS  
URUGUAY**

# Early Warning System- EWSdrugs



National  
Drug  
Council

Office of the Presidency of the Republic

U R U G U A Y



**UDO**

Uruguayan  
Drug  
Observatory



Uruguayan Drug Observatory





# ***EWSdrugs: Institutional Insertion***



**National  
Drug  
Council**

Office of the Presidency of the Republic

U R U G U A Y

## **Mission**

**Establish directives for drug policy  
Supervise and evaluate their execution  
Promote and support international  
cooperation**





# UDO

## Uruguayan Drug Observatory

- Gathers and analyzes information related to the drug phenomenon produced by each of the national sources
- Develops an information system with common indicators and methodologies
- Analyzes existing risk scenarios within these areas in order to contribute to and orient demand reduction and/or harm reduction programs on problematic drug use.
- Disseminates information through the Information and Documentation Center, media, web.
- Promotes and coordinates the development of research on drugs.



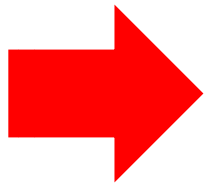


# UDO

**Uruguayan  
Drug  
Observatory**



- Manages the national and international technical cooperation in order to develop projects aimed at contributing to the understanding of the structural causes and evolution of drug use.
- Collaborates with the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs of CICAD and with UNODC, facilitating information and improving the comparability of data with other countries of the region.



**Manages and administrates the Early  
Warning System “*EWSdrugs*”**



# ***EWSdrugs: Characteristics***



## **- Initiation of Activities: November 2014**

### **Objectives:**

- Maintain an interconnected network of actors working in the drug field who communicate with, and alert each other to emerging issues.
- Monitor the market and use of NPS.
- Monitor the market and use of other drugs (e.g.: new patterns of use, unpublished events, or unusual events related to drug use, etc.).





- Chemical composition of NPS
- Chemical composition of other drugs (new compositions, identification of adulterants, etc.)
- Analysis of the impact of drugs and adulterants on the health of users.
- Emits public alerts
- Exchange information (research, etc.) and relevant materials among associates within the System.



# PURPOSE



- Contribute to the reduction of risks and harms to health due to emerging drugs.
- Generate timely information based on evidence, aimed at decision makers.
- Contribute to the strengthening of supply control and interdiction, and the authorities responsible for such actions.
- Support rapid responses by supply control authorities.

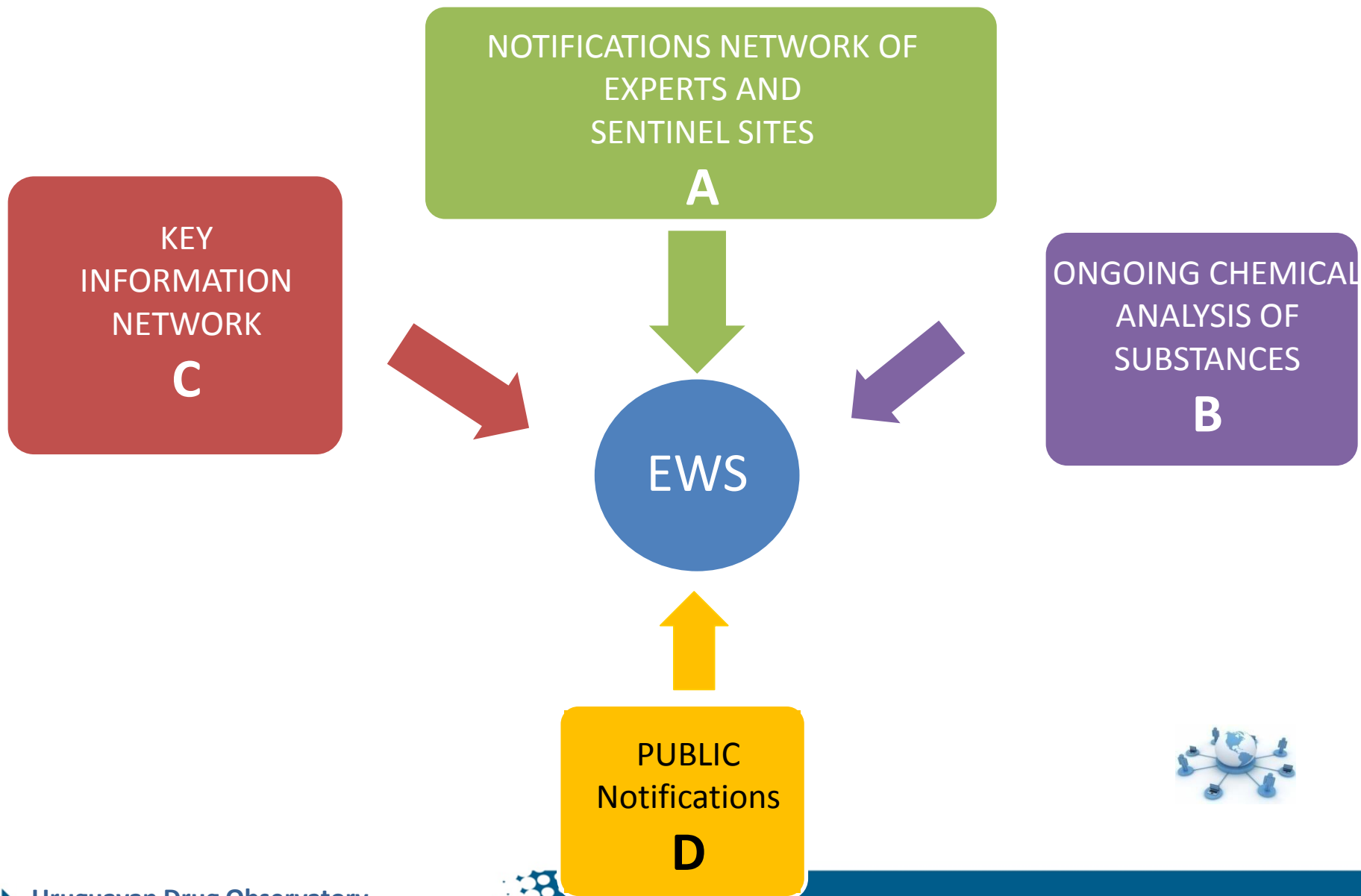
# PROCESS

- Early detection of the problem.
- Activate the information and research network.
- Real-time communication to health services, and decision makers in demand reduction and supply control.
- Communication to the population.





# INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS



# PHASES (example)



DETECTION OF EMERGING DRUG  
(seizure, research, user)



CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE EMERGING DRUG  
(Laboratory)

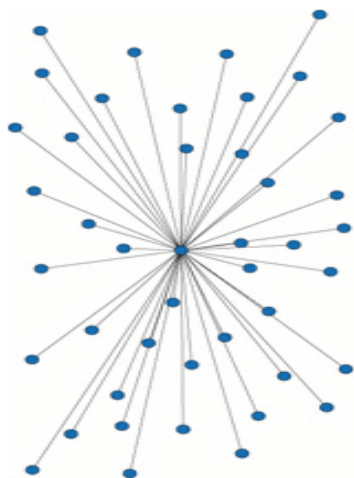
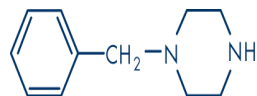


EVALUATION OF HARMS AND RISKS TO HEALTH AND  
SECURITY (Expert Network)



**EMIT EARLY WARNING**  
(Health services, treatment centers,  
general population)

Molecular structure 1: 1-benzylpiperazine (BZP)



# RESEARCH



Chemical composition studies, pre-clinical, clinical and social research are fundamental pillars of the System.

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION STUDIES

- Chemistry Faculty – **Technological Center**
- Ministry of Internal Affairs- Chemical laboratory of the Technical Police
- Judicial Power– Technical Forensics Institute

## PRE-CLINICAL STUDIES

- Clemente Estabel Institute on Biological Research

## CLINICAL STUDIES

- Center on Toxicological Information and Guidance (CIAT)
- Unit on Alcohol Related Disorders (UNITRA) of the Clinical Psychiatry Department of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of the Republic.
- Attention and Treatment Centers (Portal Amarillo, El Jaguel, Ciudadela)

## URUGUAYAN DRUG OBSERVATORY.

Epidemiology.

Ethnographic studies (through agreement with the Faculty on Humanities).

Acquisition of samples for analysis



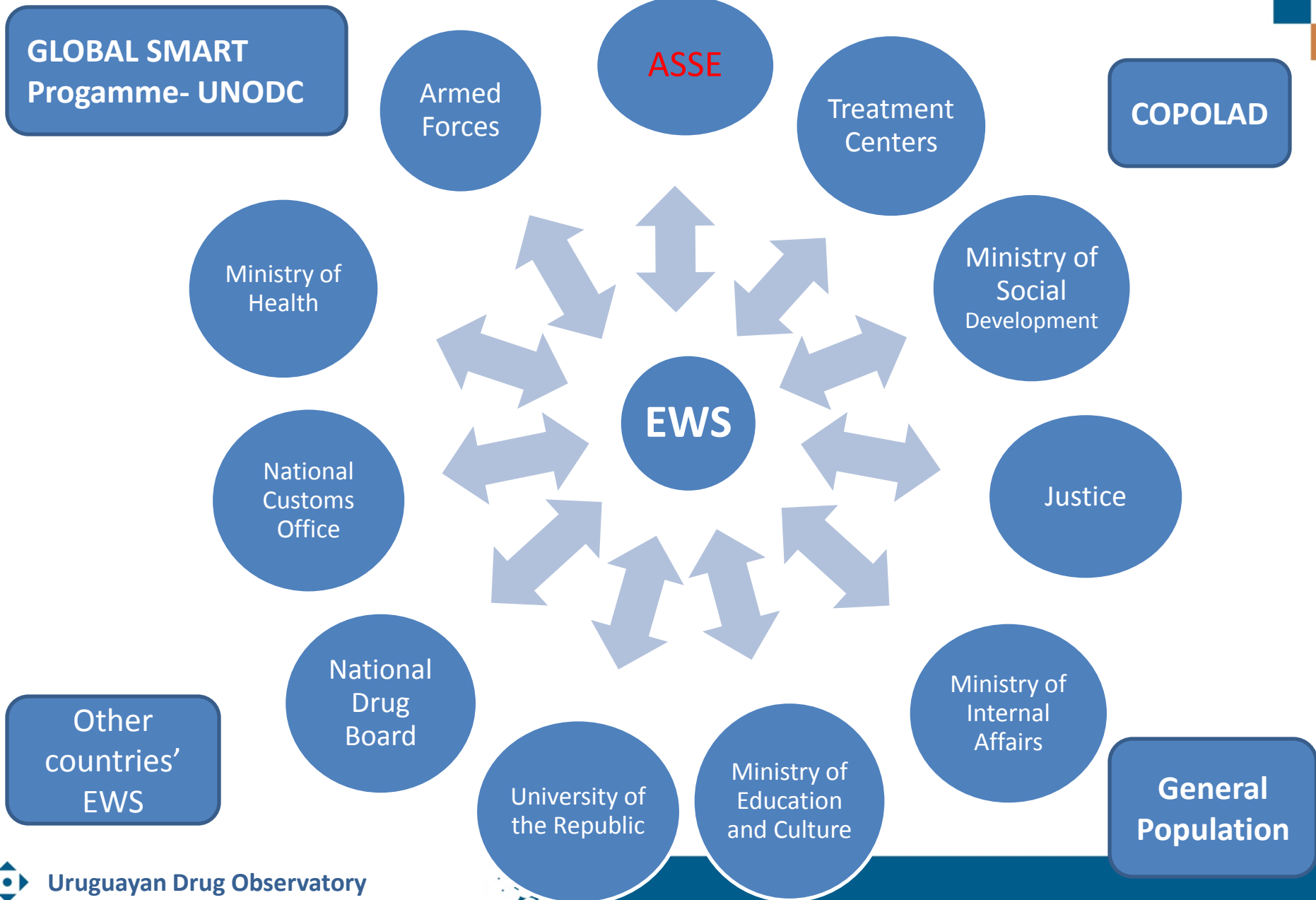
# OTHER COMPONENTS OF THE SYSTEM



- **Historical archive of events/ denouncements**
- **EWS*drugs* Bulletins**
- **Library (International alerts, scientific articles, study reports, etc.)**
- **Country-wide epidemiological information**
- **Related news in press**
- **Link to the Uruguayan Observatory on Drugs**
- **Links to other sites of interest**
- **Initiation, exchange and dissemination of activities**



# Participants in the EWSdrugs



# ***EWSdrogas: products and content***



- 4 ***EWSdrogas*** Bulletins: N°0, I, II, III
- 37 National **notifications** in the system
- 12 **notifications** of intoxication cases



Reasons for seeking help: consumption for amphetamine derivatives, cannabis, alcohol, 25B NBOME, ketamine, cocaine HCL.





- **18 notifications**, including analysis of substances sampled/seized



- **More than 149.200 units** (compressed, sealed, enveloped, *tears*, etc.) analyzed



- **Primary substances detected:** MDMA, DOB, DOC, 25I NBOME, 25B NBOME, 25C NBOME, 1,4 Butanediol , 3c b fly, Amphetamine, BZP, Synthetic Cannabinoids(JWH 015, JWH 018, JWH 073, JWH 200, JWH203, JWH250, AM 1220, AM 2201, AM 2232) , Cathinones (mephedrone, methedrone, methylone, buphedrone, 4- fluoromethcathinone, 3- fluoromethcathinone, methcathinone), ketamine, LSD, LAMPA, Fentanyl, MDPV, Cocaine Base Paste, Cocaine HCL, mescaline, nicotine, adulterants (levamisole, caffeine, phenacetine, etc) and other lesser components.





- **1 Public Alert** to the general population and **public health workers**
- **4 International Alerts**
- **1 Public denouncements** (functionality of the system which is not yet fully developed)







Buscador...



Junta Nacional de Drogas

Estrategia Nacional de Drogas

Marco legal

Materiales y Documentos

Guía de Recursos

Noticias

Archivo

Boletín Electrónico

Convocatorias

Resumen de Prensa

Links de interés

Transparencia

## Noticias

22/08/16

COMPARTIR

### Drug Early Warning System alerts regarding adulteration of cocaine with Levamisole

El Observatorio Uruguayo de Drogas de la JND, a través del SATdrogas (Sistema de Alerta Temprana en drogas) informa que el Levamisol está siendo utilizado como adulterante del Clorhidrato de Cocaína con consecuencias graves para la salud de sus consumidores. Se trata de un antihelmíntico de uso veterinario, utilizado antiguamente en medicina como inmunomodulador, que ha sido detectado como adulterante de la cocaína desde 2003 en Estados Unidos y desde 2013 en nuestro país.



Según el último reporte realizado al SATdrogas por el Instituto Técnico Forense, en el análisis de 30 muestras de clorhidrato de cocaína incautadas en mayo de 2016, se encontró levamisol en 22 de ellas (73.3%), resultando ser un indicador actual de la alta presencia de esta sustancia como adulterante.

La toxicidad del clorhidrato de cocaína y de la pasta base de cocaína pueden verse aumentadas por la presencia de adulterantes, que en su mayoría, tienden a aumentar el volumen y/o sumar efectos estimulantes.

Dado el consumo de cocaína adulterada con levamisol se han reportado múltiples complicaciones, como la neutropenia y vasculitis cutánea y menos frecuentemente casos de glomerulonefritis, hemorragia pulmonar y leucoencefalopatía.

El Centro de Información y Asesoramiento Toxicológico (CIAT) lleva relevados 3 casos graves, en lo que va de 2016, asociados a la inhalación de clorhidrato de cocaína con presencia de este adulterante.

Según los expertos del CIAT, uno de los elementos de diagnóstico clave es la vasculitis cutánea, con cambios en la coloración, equimosis y necrosis de distribución distal, en lóbulos de orejas, mejillas, nariz y extremidades. El cuadro clínico evoluciona hacia la estabilización en cuatro a cinco días y es prolongada cuando hay necrosis cutánea o necrosis tubular aguda.

El CIAT ha actualizado su protocolo terapéutico en respuesta a las afecciones agudas asociadas al consumo de clorhidrato de cocaína y pasta base de cocaína. Para cualquier consulta está disponible las 24 horas en el teléfono 1722 o a través de [www.ciat.hc.edu.uy](http://www.ciat.hc.edu.uy).

el SATdrogas



GUÍA más Información, menos riesgos  
11. edición

**BIDA** Biblioteca Iberoamericana  
sobre Drogas y Adicciones

CENTRO DE INFORMACIÓN,  
ASESORAMIENTO, DIAGNOSTICO  
Y DERIVACION EN DROGAS



Instituto de Regulación  
y Control del Cannabis **IRCCA**

regulación controlada  
del mercado de marihuana



## National Drug Council warns about adulteration of cocaine with levamisole

El secretario de la JND, Diego Olivera, dijo también que la venta de marihuana en las farmacias se concretará en las próximas semanas.

agosto 30 2016, 10:13



Junta Nacional de Drogas alerta por adulteración de cocaína con levamisol

## National Drug Council (NDC) emitted warning on levamisole in cocaine

Ago 28, 2016 | 0 Comentarios



### NATIONAL WARNING

## Secretary of the NDC: adulterated cocaine “has increased in recent months”

# Información

### NDC REPORT

## Warning about sales of adulterated cocaine

The Early Warning System on drugs of the Uruguayan Observatory on Drugs, warned of the presence of Levamisole, a product for veterinarian use, in cocaine.

### ADT Alerts for the home

Tu hogar cuidado por expertos. Descuento 50% durante los primeros 4 meses! Ir a [acturuguay.com.uy/Alarmas/Hogar](http://acturuguay.com.uy/Alarmas/Hogar)



The National Drug Council an alert regarding the presence of levamisole, an adulterant found in cocaine hydrochloride, which may have serious health consequences.

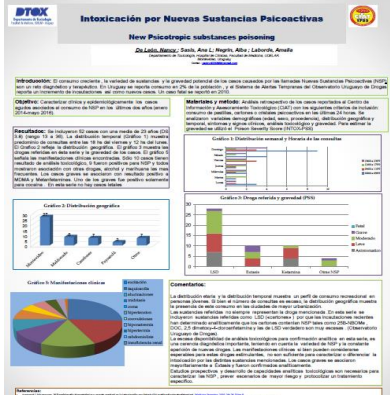
According to the last report from EWSdrogas, of the 30 samples analyzed, 22 contained levamisole, more than 70% of samples.



# 3 Specific studies on NPS and synthetic drugs:



• UDO-Fac. Humanities (2015): Synthetic trips. Study on the use of synthetic drugs in contemporary Uruguay



• CIAT (2016): Profile of acute cases of NPS consumption

2016 Informe final: "Screening de nuevas sustancias psicoactivas y cocaína en muestras de orina en fiestas electrónicas en Uruguay" Estudio auspiciado por la Junta Nacional de Drogas/Observatorio Uruguayo de Drogas en el marco de Fondos Concursables 2015


• Technological Center, Chemistry Dpt.– OUD (2016): NPS and cocaine screening in urine samples taken at raves in Uruguay



# ***EWSdrugs: future plans***

- Work to increase the participation of all members of the system (monitor the participation of members, telephone contacts, meetings in person, etc.)
- Strengthen the connection between the UDO and already participating members (bilateral agreements, development of specific projects, etc.)
- Continue to bring in more key members into the system (invite relevant actors to participate in *EWSdrugs*)



- 
- Improve the IT platform of the system (IT develop new version of the system to improve existing functionality and possible inclusion of new items)
  - Encourage the use of the **EWSdrugs** “public notification” channel
  - Promote public alert notifications in the general public or to the specialized public (e.g.: health workers and/or treatment providers), whenever appropriate.
  - Support related activities, meetings, symposia, etc.
  - Increase the diversity of materials (Reports, Research, Scientific articles, International alerts, etc.) and sources of information available in the system
  - Produce **EWSdrugs** Bulletins



# Early Warning System - EWSdrugs



## Thank you for your attention

Contact: [lkeuroglian@presidencia.gub.uy](mailto:lkeuroglian@presidencia.gub.uy)



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