SYNTHETIC DESIGNED DRUGS
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DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)
SYNTHETIC DESIGNER DRUGS

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission
CICAD
San Jose’, Costa Rica
November 29, 2012
Designer Drugs

These drugs are perceived as being ‘legal’ alternatives to marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, MDMA and LSD.

- These drugs are being marketed and sold as:
  - incense
  - bath salts
  - glass cleaner
  - shoe deodorizer
  - plant food
PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS

- Dependence
- Anxiety/Agitation
- Disorientation
- Delusions
- Hallucinations
- Stroke
- Loss of Consciousness
- Organ Failure/Permanent Organ Damage
- Toxicity Resulting in Death
PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS

- Overdoses – 11,000 to 12,000 ER Admissions in 2011
- Violent Behavior
- Assaults/Attacks
- Homicides
- Suicides
- DUIs with Fatalities and Severe Injuries
- Media Reports – bizarre behavior
  - MS - Self Mutilation
  - IA – Man Eats Dirt
  - NJ – Priest Stabbed
  - PA – Stabbing of Friend
  - MN – Overdose Death (2C-E)
  - SC – Overdose Death (Mix of Spice Compounds)
  - LA – Suicide
  - ND – Overdose deaths
Compounds Encountered in U.S. Since 2009

- >180 Synthetic Compounds
- From 8 Classes of Drugs
CLASSES OF SYNTHETIC DESIGNER DRUGS

Cannabinoids (Spice/K2/Herbal Incense)
- Aminoalkylindoles (Depressants/Hallucinogens) - JWHs & AMs
- Cannabicyclohexanols (Depressants/Hallucinogens)
- FAAH Inhibitors (Depressants/Hallucinogens)
- Other Synthetic Cannabinoids

Phenethylamines
- Synthetic Cathinones - Bath Salts (Stimulants/Hallucinogens)
- Amphetamines (Stimulants)
- 2-C Series Compounds (Hallucinogens)
  - 25I-NBOMe
- D-Series Compounds (Hallucinogens)
- Aminoindanes (Hallucinogens)
First reported encounter typically at a Port of Entry

Suspicious manifest prompts a quarantine and analysis

Source Country
  - China

Manifest: Detergent
Found: Pentedrone
December 2011
Synthetic Cannabinoids

- Unregulated and unlicensed industry
- Multiple manufacturers

- Full disclosure of ingredients typically not present
- Significant batch to batch variance (i.e. “hot spots”)
- Labeled “Not for Human Consumption”
SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID
Bulk Plant Material
Damiana Leaves
Mix the product
Cannabinoid Drying
Sort by Flavor
Packaging Center
To your Local Smoke Shop or Convenience Store or Head Shop
Next to the Candy Bars and Gum
16-year old male
No memory of incident
Drove by an elementary and high school at high rates of speed
Hospital drug screen no other drugs found
Pipe, product, and urine analyzed – JWH-018
Suspected DUID
Sidney, Nebraska – September 2010
BATH SALTS, PLANT FOOD, WINDOW CLEANER, ETC.
Synthetic Cathinones
a/k/a Bath Salts, Glass Cleaner, plant food

• Structurally and pharmacologically similar to amphetamine, Ecstasy (MDMA), cathinone and other related substances.

• Are central nervous system (CNS) stimulants and have stimulant and psychoactive properties similar to U.S. schedule I and II amphetamine type stimulants.

• Often more dangerous than the illicit drugs they are purported to mimic
Synthetic Cathinones

- Like the cannabinoids, unregulated and unlicensed industry
- Full disclosure of ingredients typically not present
- Significant batch to batch variances “Hot Spots”
This group of hallucinogenic substances falls under the phenethylamine class of drugs, and is often marketed as MDMA and LSD.

2-C Series compounds are powerful hallucinogens often in tablet form.

2-C-E caused the overdose illnesses of several teenagers and young adults as well as overdose deaths.

25I-NBOMe - (Legal Acid, N-Bomb) often dosed on blotter paper or from “eye dropper” into mouth.
Hallucinogen, abused orally or through nasal passages
Encountered on blotter paper and in dropper bottles
Taken as a substitute for LSD
Linked to recent deaths
AG finding that the scheduling of a substance in schedule I on a temporary basis is **necessary to avoid an imminent hazard to the public safety**

Emergency (Temporary) Scheduling by DEA

- 5 Cannabinoid Compounds (Spice)
  - March 31, 2011

- 3 Cathinone Compounds (Bath Salts)
  - October 20, 2011
Synthetic Cannabinoids - Enforcement Encounters/Seizures/Cases

Seizures of Controlled Synthetic Cannabinoids - NFLIS

- JWH-200
- JWH-073
- JWH-018
- CP 47,497-C8-HOMOLOG
- CP 47,497

EMERGENT DRUGS - Control, Scheduling and Analogue provision
Office of Diversion Control, DEA
Synthetic Cathinones - Enforcement Encounters/Seizures/Cases

Seizures of Other Synthetic Cathinones - NFLIS

- PENTEDRONE
- NAPHYRONE
- METHEDRONE
- FLUOROMETHCATHINONE
- BUTYLONE
- 4-MEC
- MPPP
- ETHYLONE

Number of Seizure

Number of Seizure

Q1/10  Q2/10  Q3/10  Q4/10  Q1/11  Q2/11  Q3/11  Q4/11
FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act of 2012

- signed July 9, 2012

- Fifteen (15) Synthetic Cannabinoids (Spice)

- Two (2) Substitute Cathinones (Stimulant/Hallucinogens)
  - MDPV & Mephedrone

- Nine (9) 2-C Compounds (Hallucinogens)
Plant Food, Mieow, Meow, Meph, Mephedrone, MCAT, 4MMCa

We don’t know the long term effects...

Do you?
Questions/Thank You!