Swedish Public Health Agency`s perspective and work related to NPS

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Sara Wall, Analyst
The Public Health Agency of Sweden
The Public Health Agency of Sweden has overall responsibility for public health issues at a national level.

Our mission is to promote health, prevent illness and contribute to a sustainable society.
The Agency shall monitor and investigate the need for regulation of new substances as narcotics or under the Act on the Prohibition of Certain Goods Dangerous to Health.

The Agency shall be a national unity (so-called Focal Point) for the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)
Legal system

- Penal Law on Narcotics (SFS 1968:64)
- The Act on the Prohibition of Certain Goods Dangerous to Health (SFS 1999:42)
The Destruction Act - Statements

Statement by substance

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<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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Sid 6. 2016-11-09
NADiS and NADiS-PORTAL

• Since 2000 we have a national collaboration called The Network for the Current Situation of Drugs in Sweden (NADiS)

• NADiS is a network for sharing information between agency's and other governs bodies and research.

• It’s a reference group to Public Health Agency of Sweden and Medical Product Agency.

• The NADiS members have access to a closed internet webpage were you can enter information about seizers and serious adverse events. The NADiS-PORTAL .

• There is also a special email address for information regarding new psychoactive substances.
Contributing authorities in NADiS

- Public Health Agency of Sweden
- Medical Products Agency
- Swedish Customs
- Swedish custom laboratory
- Swedish National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
- Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- The National Board of Forensic Medicine
- Swedish National Laboratory of Forensic Science
- Swedish Poison Information Centre
- The Swedish Prosecution Authority
- National Food Agency
- Karolinska University laboratory, STRIDA
Reporting of new psychoactive substances
(from Sweden to the EMCDDA)
Swedish Early Warning System

Information on NPS

UNODC, EWA
EMCDDA, Early warning

NADiS
Internet
Scientific literature

The Public Health Agency of Sweden

Public
Swedish Early Warning System

Information on NPS

- Media
- UNODC, EWA
- EMCDDA, Early warning

NADiS

Internet

Scientific literature

The Public Health Agency of Sweden

- NADiS network
- EMCCDA/UNODC
- Regional County boards
- Other recipients
- Regulation
Time line Acetylfentanyl

Seizure by Customs 24 October 2014
Discussion on Swedish Internet forum 23 August 2014
Analysed by the Swedish National Forensics Centre 31 October 2014
First indication regarding deaths from the National Board of Forensic Medicine 18 May 2015

EWS: Reporting form on NPS 5 February 2015
Case reported from Swedish Poison Information Centre 25 April 2015
Statement according to the Act of destruction 6 February 2015

Regulated as Narcotics, Sweden 18 August 2015
Alert EMCDDA 7 June 2015
Suggestion for regulation in Sweden 1 June 2015

WHO recommended the scheduling of Acetylfentanyl under the 1961 Convention November 2015
Challenges

- The hospitals do not always take samples and send them for analyses.
- We might lack reference to validate a method
- Scientific literature
- It is sometimes hard to connect cases with each other because the excess information is not given
- To further develop the NADiS-PORTAL
- Differences between agencies and research
Priority areas for development

• Continue to develop the NADiS-portal

• Continue to work with the collaboration between public health, law enforcements, laboratories, research and other governmental bodies

• Possibly evolve the information dissemination
Thank you!

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