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Alert on new recreational drugs on the web; building up a European-wide digital Early Warning System

JA2015 - GPSD [705038]

START DATE: 01/01/2008

END DATE: 01/01/2010

DURATION: 24 month(s)

CURRENT STATUS: Finalised

PROGRAMME TITLE: First Programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008)

PROGRAMME PRIORITY: -

CALL: Health Determinants (Hd 2006)

TOPIC: Supporting key Community strategies on addictive substances: Tobacco control activities. Activities to reduce alcohol-related harm. Drug-related activities

EC CONTRIBUTION: 424821.6 EUR

KEYWORDS: Drugs and substance misuse, Impementation, Pilot testing, Prevention, Survey

PORTFOLIO: Data collection, Illicit drugs

General objectives

The strategic objectives of this project include a regular monitoring of the web in respect of novel recreational drugs and prompt implementation of a technical database on novel recreational psychoactive compounds/combinations, with the resulting data being made available to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction's (EMCDDA) early warning system for possible dissemination to selected health professionals and health agencies.

Strategic relevance and contribution to the public health programme

Most consumers of recreational drugs access the Internet to obtain/exchange information on novel recreational compounds/combinations. Technical knowledge on recreational compounds that have appeared in the drug market in the last few years is hardly obtained through reference books and scientific journals, and professionals are faced with a gap in knowledge and preventative campaigns are at risk of not being effective. Without the appropriate knowledge of those recreational drugs which are available to potential consumers, both health professionals and health agencies cannot carry out an accurate assessment of possible drug-induced medical and psychiatric consequences. There is a need for collaboration between different countries to tackle the problem.

Methods and means

Monitoring of the web (i.e. websites, e-chat rooms, newsgroups) in nine languages in respect of novel (synthetic and herbal) drugs of misuse.
Technical evaluation of the novel compounds.
Dissemination of the information and implementation of a web scanning system, which will be liaising with the existing EMCDDA early warning system.

Expected outcomes period

The project will develop a web scanning tool that can complement the sources of information available at the EU level. Information on the products detected through the web scanning will be compiled and characterised following a well-established methodology, to allow unequivocal product identification. The Psychonaut Web Scanning will function as an adaptable system with multilingual capacity. Users will be allowed to review the documents in the language of their choice. It will also translate articles from English to the other languages, and vice versa. This will include: a web

scanning for novel recreational drugs and drug combinations' outbreaks; real-time, 24/7 coverage of media and scientific journals; state-of-the-art technology and automated alert function to notify users; automated search function to quickly identify relevant reports, customised to user needs.

COORDINATOR



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PARTNERS



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City:

Country: Belgium



A-Clinic Foundation

Street:

City:

Country: Finland

Institut Municipal d'Assistència Sanitària

Street:

City:



Country: Spain



Servizio Salute Regione Marche

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City:

Country: Italy

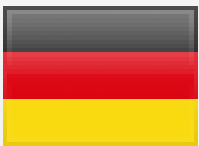


The Bergen Clinic Foundation

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Rhine State Hospital, University of Duisburg-Essen

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ConferenceProgramme2009 Ancona

St. George's Hospital Medical School

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http://azorina.cc.cec.eu.int:8082/publications/2006348/2006348_conferenceprogramme2009_ancona.pdf

Corazza PsychonautConference2009 Ancona

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Dissemination of EWS results through the websites Conference2009

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Interim report 1 - Interim report 1

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Misuse and Abuse of Opioid Analgesics

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[_abuse_of_opioid_analgesics_conference2009.pdf](#)

Monitoring of new compounds on the web Conference2009

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NEWS Conference2009

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Overview of the PsychonautProgramme Conference2009

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Psychonaut Web mapping Conference2009

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Psychonaut technical folders Conference2009

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