

Evolving Safety of Psychoactive Drugs

PROGRAM

11:00 am – 11:45 am EDT

Evolving Safety of Psychoactive Drugs

Richard C. Dart, MD, PhD

*Executive Director – RADARS[®] System, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety,
Denver Health and Hospital Authority
President, Canadian Consumer Product and Pharmaceutical Safety Inc.*

Recognition of prescription drug abuse continues to expand and evolve. RADARS[®] System is evolving to provide rapid and accurate data for prescription drug misuse of all types. This presentation reviews RADARS[®] System data and sets the stage for subsequent discussions about the remarkably diverse set of psychoactive drugs abused in the United States, Europe, and Canada.

11:45 am – 12:15 pm EDT

Heterogeneous Patterns of Stimulant Initiation: A Study of Typologies

Joshua C. Black, PhD

Senior Research Scientist, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety, Denver Health and Hospital Authority

This talk will characterize stimulant-related behavioral patterns into heterogeneous subpopulations with common initiation characteristics. Common pathways will be elucidated.

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm EDT

Does Over-the-Counter Mean Under the Radar?

Stefania Chiappini, MD

Psychopharmacology, Drug Misuse and Novel Psychoactive Substances Research Unit, School of Life and Medical Sciences, University of Hertfordshire, Hertfordshire AL10 9AB, UK

Over the past 20 years or so, the drug misuse scenario has seen the emergence of both prescription-only and over-the-counter (OTC) medications being reported as ingested for recreational purposes. OTC drugs such as antihistamines, cough/cold medications, and decongestants are reportedly the most popular in being diverted and misused. While the current related knowledge is limited, this talk will focus on the published clinical data on OTC misuse, including antihistamines (e.g., diphenhydramine, promethazine, chlorpheniramine, and dimenhydrinate), dextromethorphan (DXM)- and codeine-based cough medicines, and the nasal decongestant pseudoephedrine.

Jennifer Jewell, DrPH

Assistant Research Scientist, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety, Denver Health and Hospital Authority

The RADARS System provides the opportunity to view OTC medication abuse from several different angles. In this talk we will briefly identify trends in abuse for several OTC medications of interest.

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1:15 pm – 2:15 pm EDT

Am I Dreaming? The Misuse and Abuse of Psychedelics

A Mosaic Perspective of Psychedelics Landscape

Marta Sokolowska, PhD

Associate Director for Controlled Substances, Office of the Center Director, Center for Drug Evaluation & Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Psychedelics are getting a second look as diverse interest groups carve pathways for joining the “psychedelics revolution.” As the surge of interest grows, the promise that these substances hold as potential treatments for a myriad of health conditions, is also revealing a complex patchwork of research, medicinal, social/cultural, ethical, health policy, and real-world evidence data considerations that need to be addressed in order to maximize their benefits, while mitigating risks on populations.

Psychedelics in the Real World: Using Real World Evidence to Prepare for Approval

Janetta L. Iwanicki, MD

Chief Scientific Officer, Research and Consulting, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety, Denver Health and Hospital Authority

Psychedelic pharmaceutical medications have enormous potential as treatment for many difficult-to-treat conditions, such as PTSD and treatment-refractory depression. As regulatory agencies consider these approvals, understanding patterns and trends related to use of these substances with real-world evidence is crucial to informing plans for postmarketing surveillance. This talk will explore existing data on use of psychedelics, and how it can be used to inform future studies.

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm EDT

Break

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2:30 pm – 4:00 pm EDT

Fake Drugs, Real Risk

Answered and Unanswered Questions about Counterfeit Drugs: Targeted Literature Review

Joshua C. Black, PhD

Senior Research Scientist, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety, Denver Health and Hospital Authority

This talk will provide a literature review on around specific questions of interest regarding counterfeit drug research in the United States. The consequences of counterfeit drugs in data sources will be presented for discussion.

Counterfeit Pills In North America: A Conversation Centered on Science and Action

Moderator

Nabarun Dasgupta, MPH, PhD

Innovation Fellow and Senior Scientist, Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina

Panelists

Daniel Burke

Chief, Investigative Services Division, Office of Criminal Investigations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Sangeeta Vaswani Chatterjee, PharmD

Deputy Director, Office of Drug Security Integrity and Response, Office of Compliance, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Christopher Moraff

Founder Narcomedica, Cohost Narcotica podcast, Drugs Culture & Media Fellow, Investigative Reporters & Editors

Samuel Tobias

British Columbia Centre on Substance Use

This fluid conversation will provide an engaging overview of the current landscape of counterfeit pills. We will hear on-the-ground perspectives from the United States and Canada. And, hear from federal officials on what they are doing to protect public health.

Panel Discussion and Summary

Richard C. Dart, MD, PhD (Moderator)

Executive Director – RADARS[®] System, Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Safety, Denver Health and Hospital Authority

President, Canadian Consumer Product and Pharmaceutical Safety Inc.

4:00 pm EDT

Adjournment