

**GROUP OF EXPERTS ON CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS**  
**May 29 - 31 2018**  
**Panama City, Panama**

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**Original: English**

**INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD  
GLOBAL OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO INTERDICT OPIOIDS' ILLICIT  
DISTRIBUTION AND SALES (OPIOIDS) PROJECT**



International Narcotics  
Control Board



# International Narcotics Control Board

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## *Global Operational Partnerships to Interdict Opioids' Illicit Distribution and Sales (OPIOIDS)* Project

Group of Experts on Chemical Substances  
and Pharmaceutical Products

29 - 31 May 2018

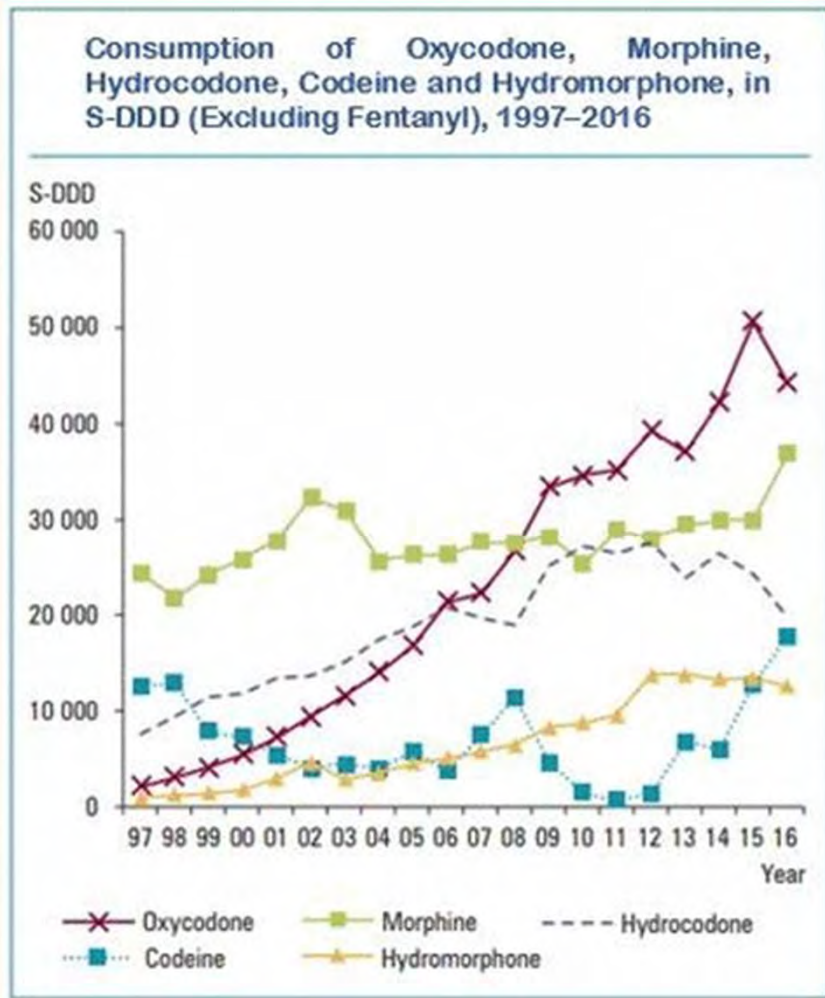
Panama City, Panama

GLOBAL PROJECTS BY THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD



# International | Overview

## CONSUMPTION INCREASING



Source: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board on Narcotic Drugs: Estimated World Requirements for 2018; Statistics for 2016 (E/INCB/2017/2)

## OVER PRESCRIPTION & DIVERSION

- Increased prescribing of opioids and diversion leading to abuse, initially in high income countries
- Use of licitly manufactured opioids increased steadily over past 20 years (3x)
- Fentanyl use increased exponentially (graph)
- Illicit markets expanded to fill synthetic opioids demand as of 2013 (deadly illicit fentanyls)



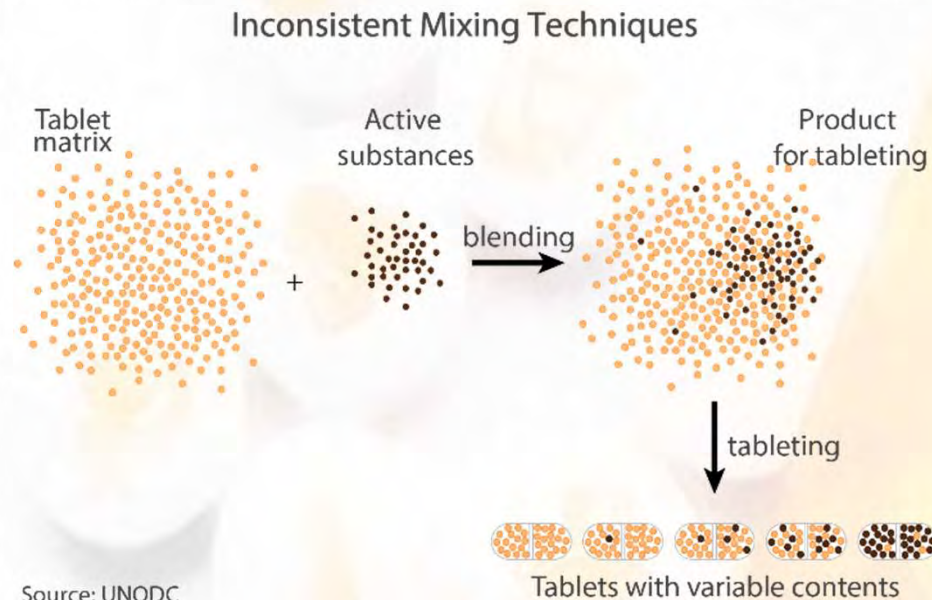
## SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS OVERVIEW

Video



# International | Overview

## MORE NPS, MORE DEADLY



Fentanyls are a cheap added to heroin, cocaine and falsified pills sold as medication

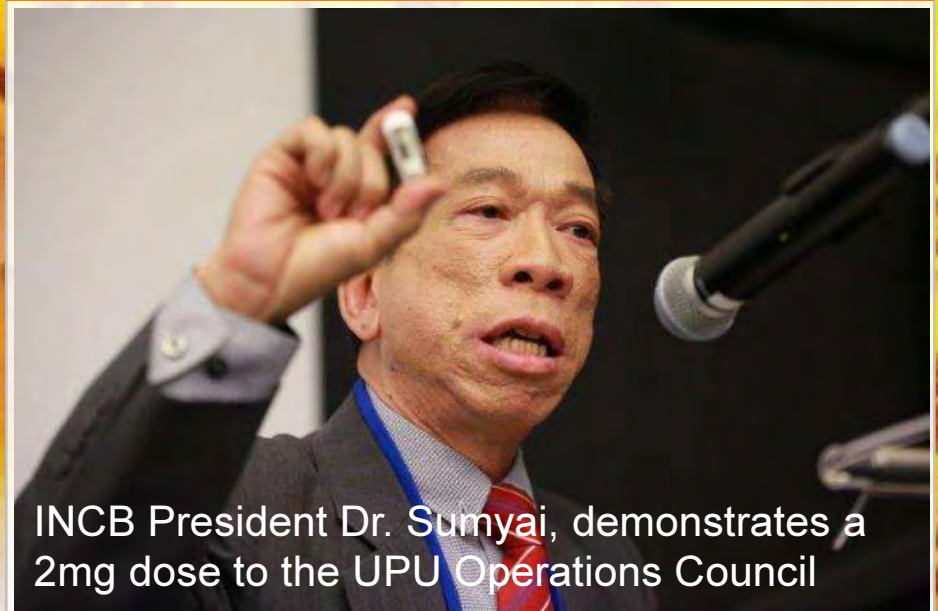
Inconsistent mixing lead to overdose for unsuspecting user.

Overdose may also result from improper handling by officers, K9 units etc.

## OPIOIDS MORE POTENT THAN HEROIN



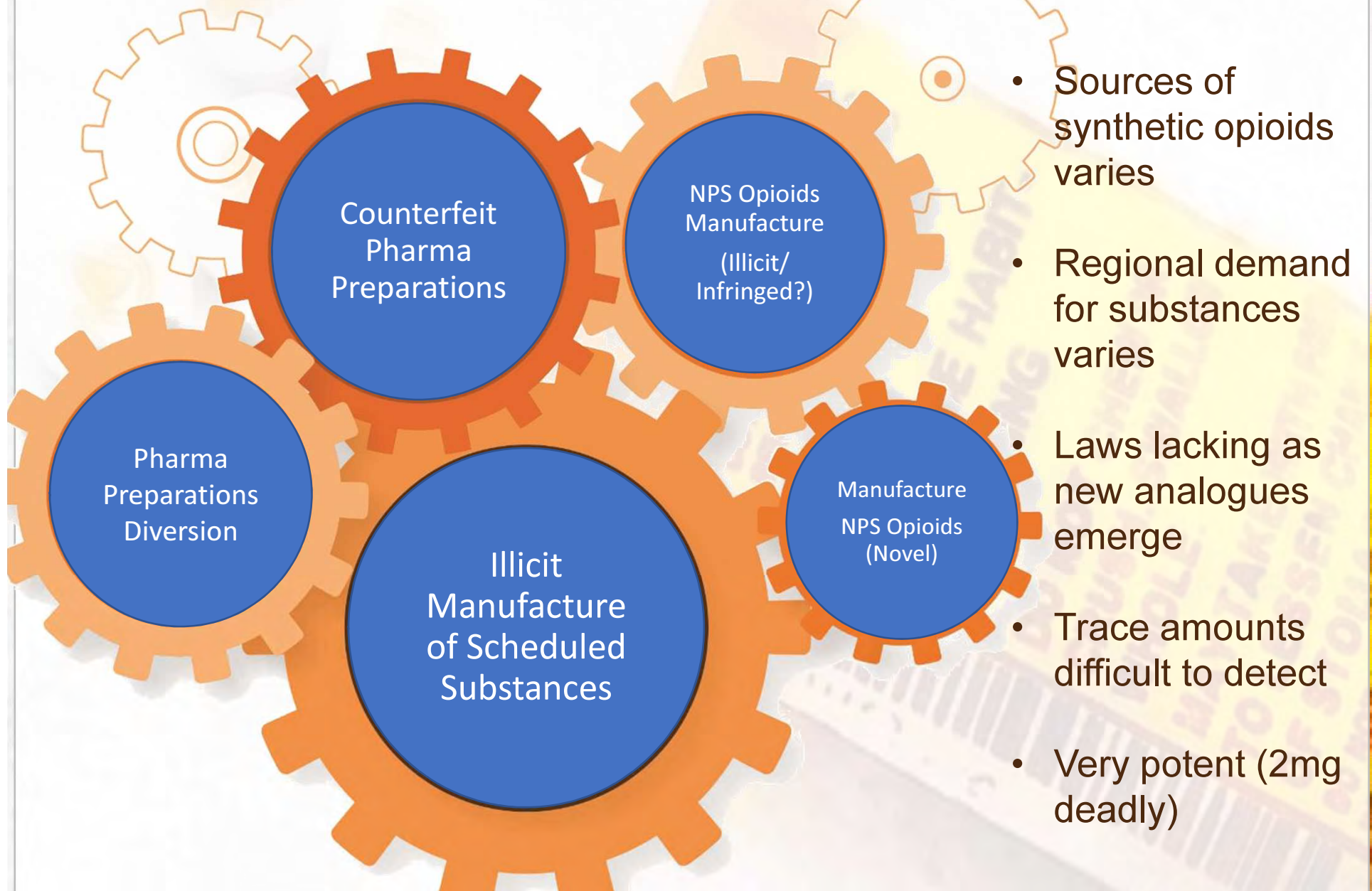
## FENTANYL, FATAL UNDER 2mg





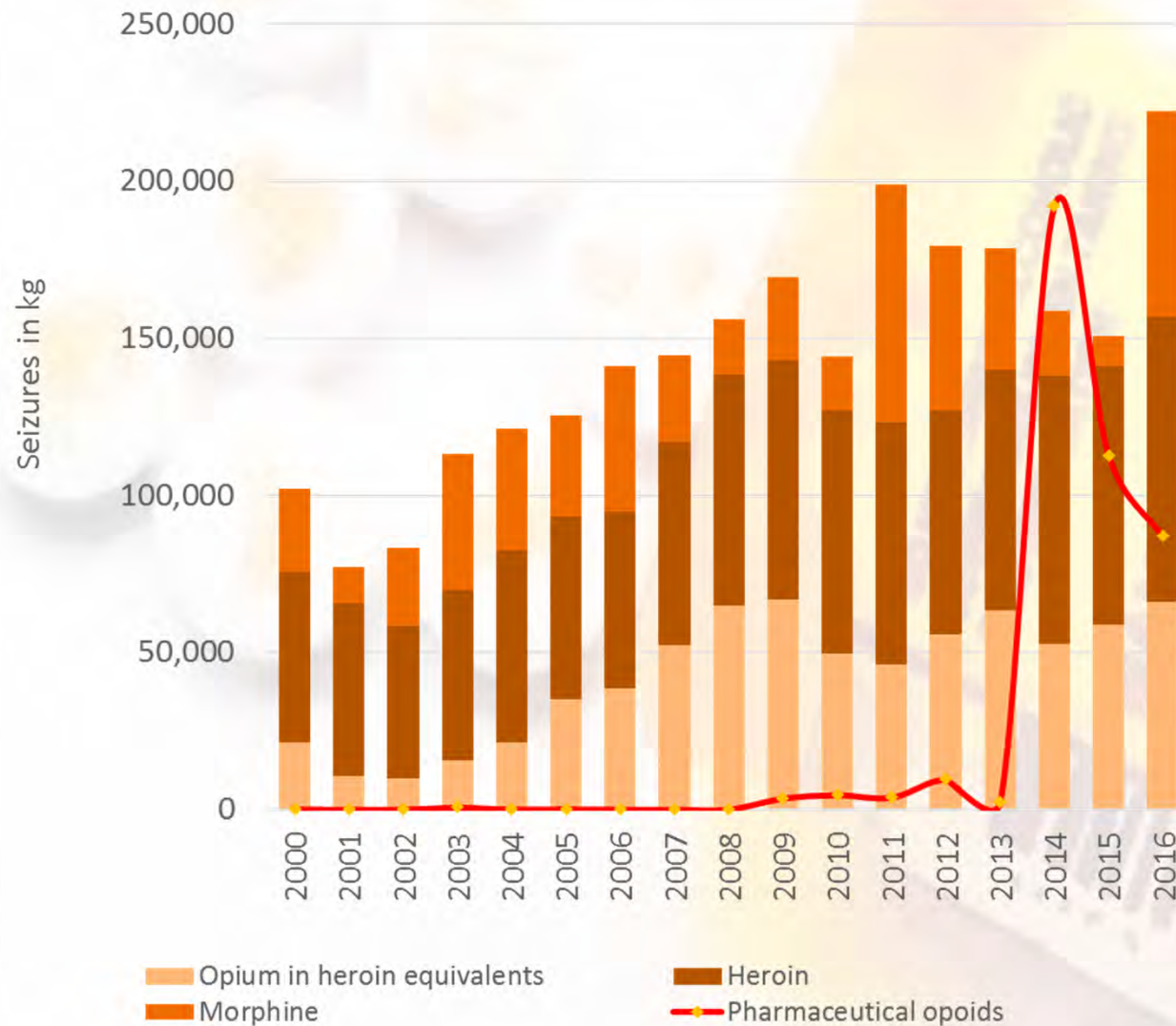
# International | Overview

## A VARIETY OF SOURCES



# International | Global Problem Increasing

## GLOBAL OPIOIDS SEIZURES, 2000-2016

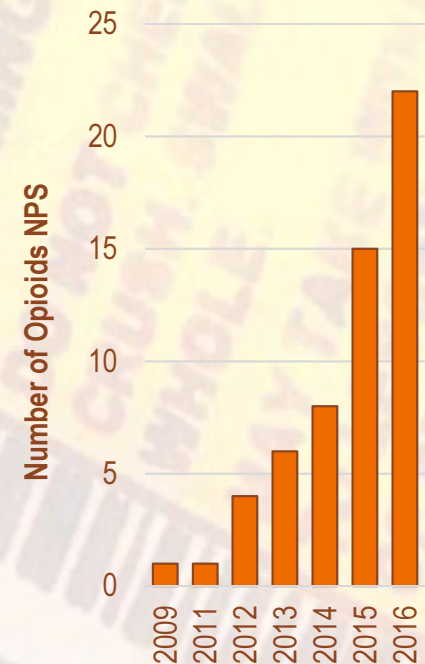


Source: UNODC

## GROWTH

New deadly synthetic opioids are emerging each

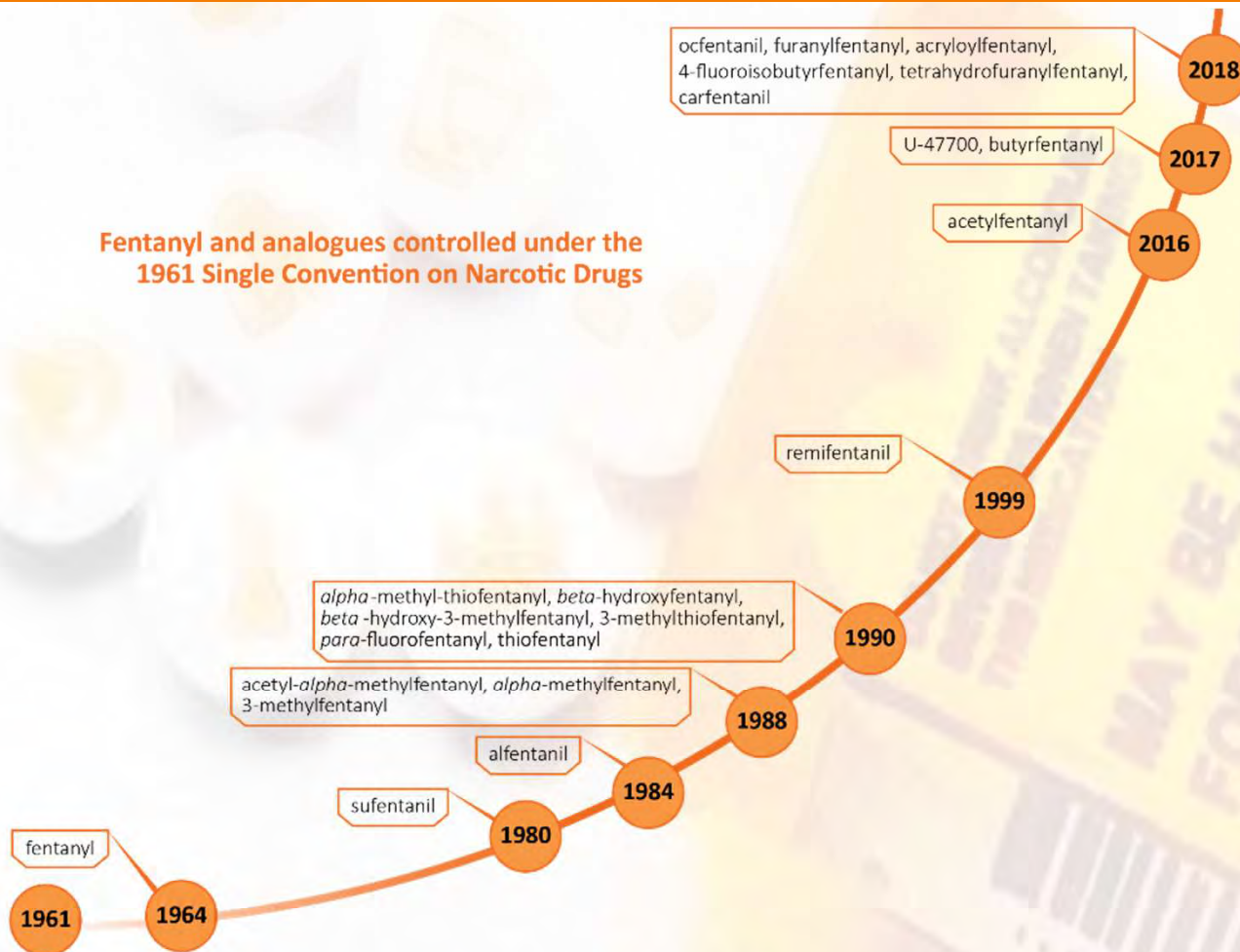
## NEW OPIOIDS





# International | Limited Controls

## INTERNATIONAL CONTROLS



Commission on Narcotic Drugs, added Ocfentanil, Furanylfentanyl, Acryloylfentanyl, 4-Fluoroisobutyrfentanyl, Tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl, and Carfentanil to the 1961 Convention.

## CONTROLLED

Acetyl-*Alpha*-Methylfentanyl  
Acetylfentanyl  
Alfentanil  
*Alpha*-Methylfentanyl  
*Alpha*-Methylthiofentanyl  
*Beta*-Hydroxyfentanyl  
*Beta*-Hydroxy-3-Methylfentanyl  
Butyrylfentanyl  
Carfentanil  
Fentanyl  
3-Methylfentanyl  
3-Methylthiofentanyl  
*para*-Fluorofentanyl  
Remifentanyl  
Sufentanil  
Thiofentanyl

## PRECURSORS

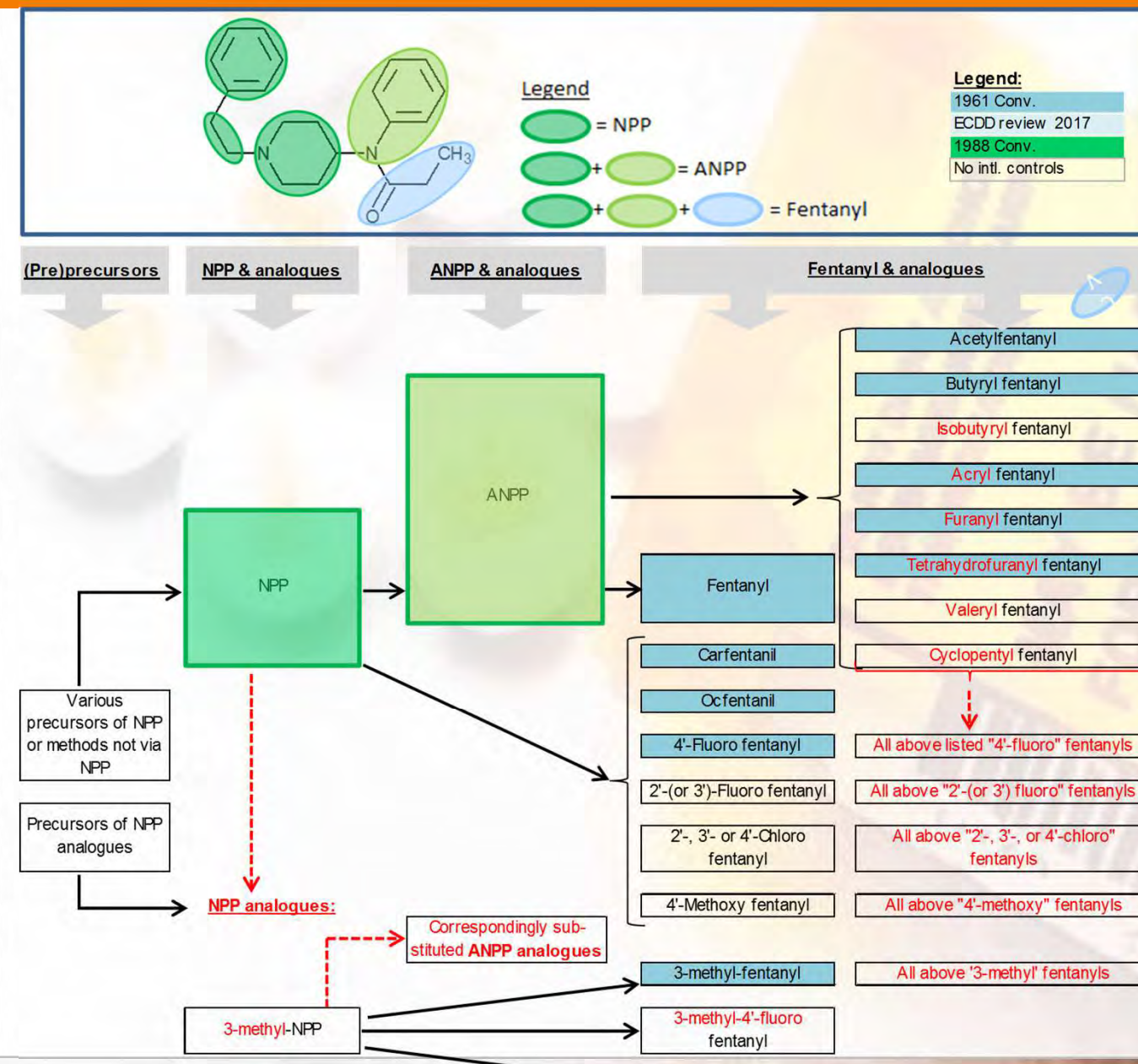
Added to 1988  
Convention in 2017

- 4-anilino-N-phenethylpiperidine (ANPP)
- N-phenethyl-4-piperidone. (NPP)



# Facilitation | New Fentanyl Formulas

## FENTANYL ANALOGUES AND PRECURSORS



## NOT SCHEDULED

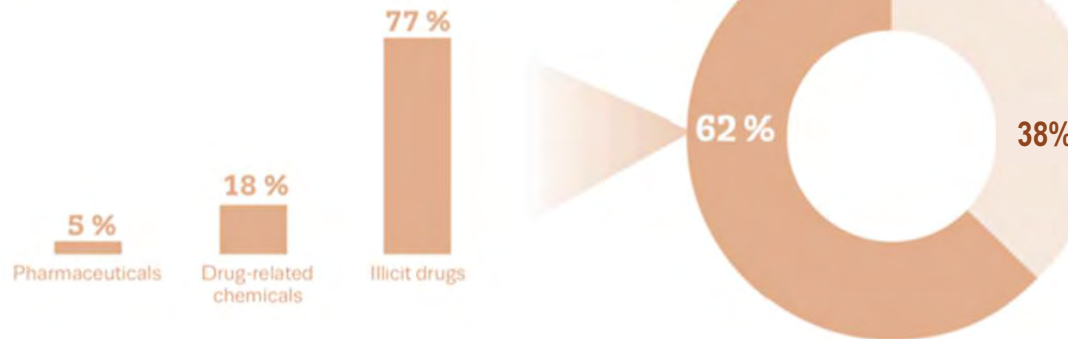
- 2-fluorofentanyl
- 3-fluorofentanyl
- 3-phenylpropanoyl fentanyl
- 4-fluoro-butyrfentanyl
- 4-methoxybutyrfentanyl
- Acetyl norfentanyl
- alpha-methylbutyryl fentanyl
- Benzodioxole fentanyl
- Benzyl fentanyl (HCl)
- Cyclopentyl fentanyl (Cyclopentanoyl fentanyl)
- Cyclopropyl fentanyl
- Despropionyl 2-fluorofentanyl
- Isobutyryl fentanyl
- isobutyryl-F-fentanyl N-benzyl analogue
- Methoxyacetyl fentanyl (HCl)
- ortho-Methyl methoxyacetyl fentanyl
- para-Chloroisobutyryl fentanyl
- Tetramethylcyclopropanefentanyl
- U-48800
- U-49900
- U-51754
- Valeryl fentanyl
- W-15
- W-18
- β-Hydroxythiofentanyl
- + more on the drug market....

# Facilitation | Internet & Darkweb

INCB Restricted: Law Enforcement &  
Regulatory Intelligence Purposes Only

## ILLICIT USE OF INTERNET (DARKWEB)

### Drugs and drug-related chemicals



Source: Web-IQ (2017).

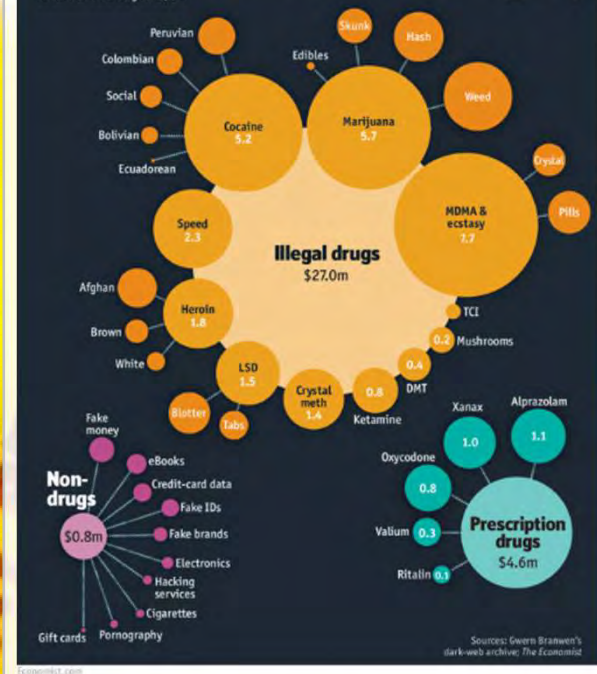
- Analysis of 1.5M trades over 2 months from: AB, Hansa, Traderoute, Valhalla (June –July 2017)
- Top 5 countries account for more than 70% of **global trade**: USA (27%), UK (22%), Germany (8%), Australia (8%), and Holland (7%)
- Darkweb trade of opioids largely independent of both national production and consumption– it's a **global marketplace**

Source: Drugs (Dittus et al. 2018)

## DARKWEB MARKET

### The dark web

Value of a sample of sales on Silk Road 2, Evolution and Agora  
December 2013-July 2015, \$m



## TOR USERS

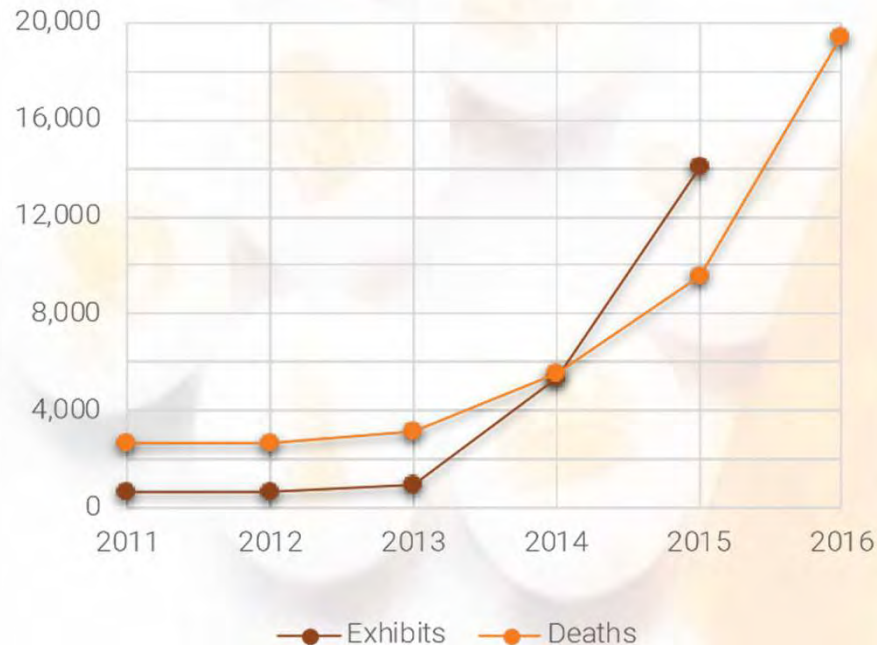
- More than 2.2 million users
- 60,000 onion sites
- 57% illegal activities



# Regional | Existing Markets

## UNITED STATES

NUMBER OF SYNTHETIC OPIOID DEATHS AND FENTANYL EXHIBITS BY YEAR, 2011-2016

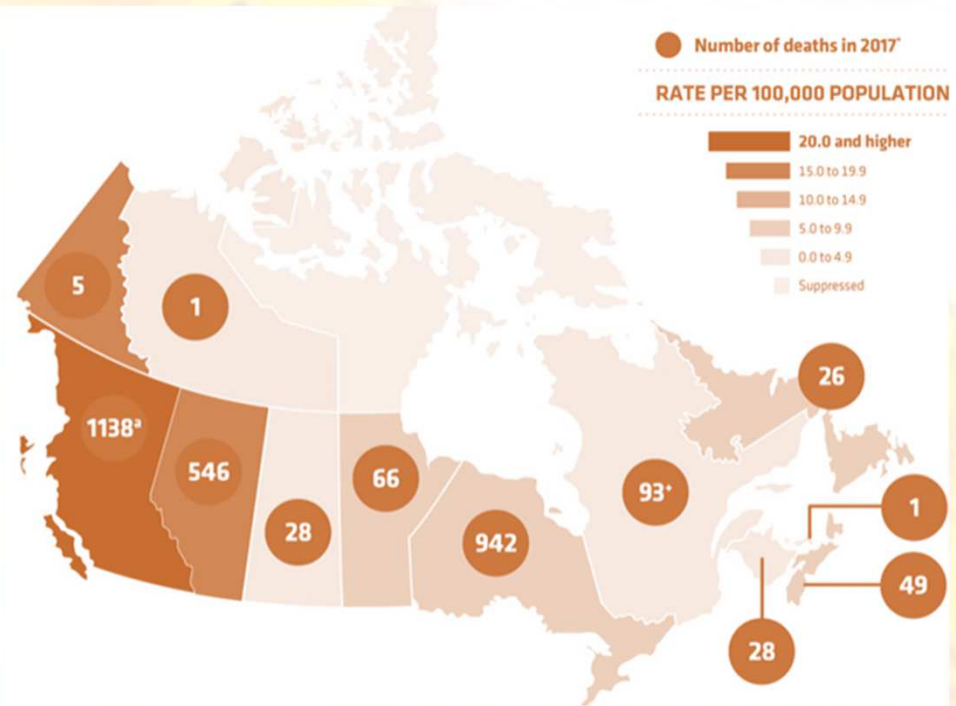


- +117% increase in identifications in 2017 (over 2016); 18 different **synthetic opioids** seized
- Entering USA via China (chemicals via post) and Mexico (fake preparations via land border)

Sources: CDC and DEA Special Testing Labs, February 2018

## CANADA

OPIOIDS-RELATED OVERDOSE DEATH RATES 2017, BY PROVINCE

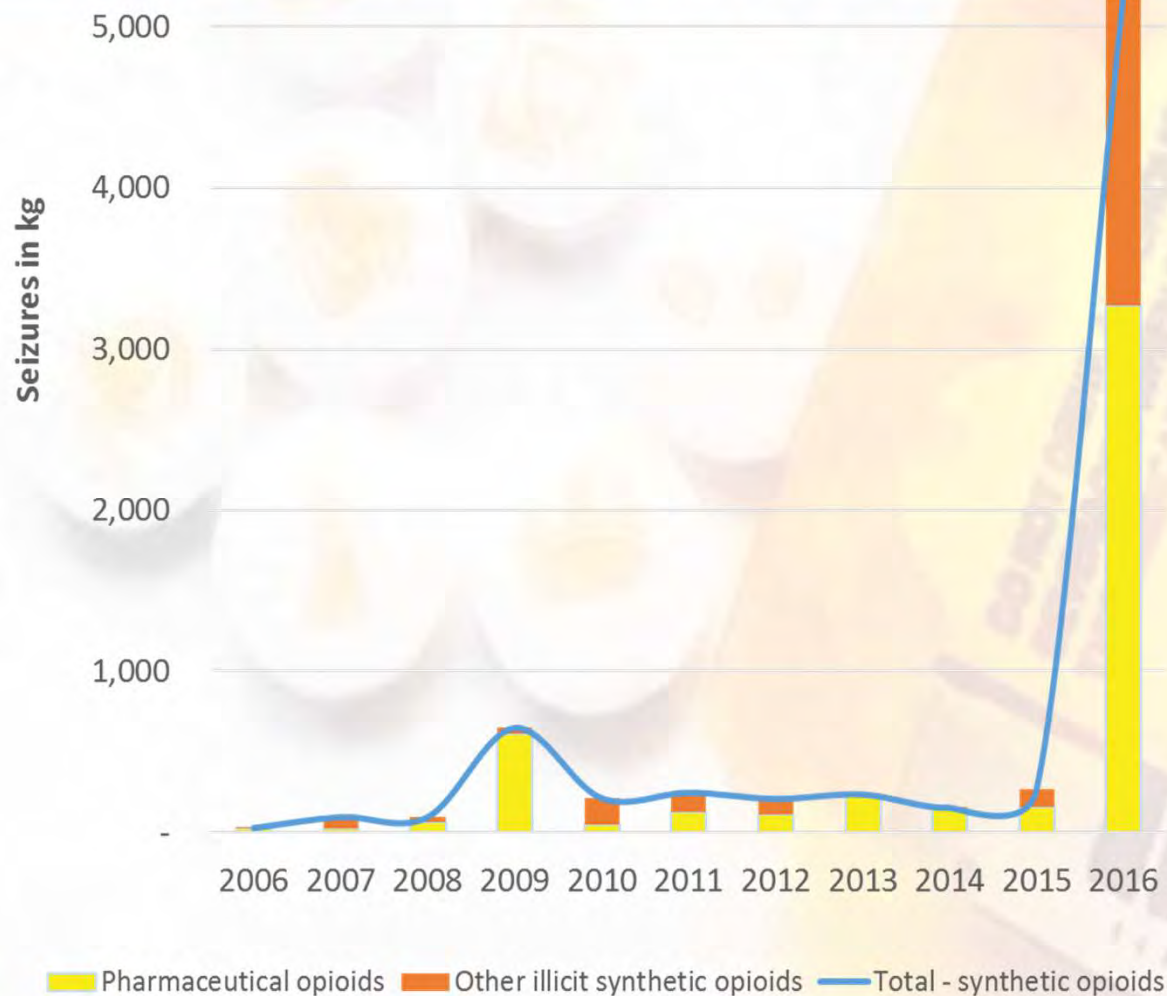


- 2017, Canada overdose rate increased to 10.6 opioids-related deaths per 100,000
- Opioid overdose is now the leading cause of deaths for Canadians aged between 30 and 39.

Source: Health Canada, on Apparent Opioid-Related Deaths, 2018

# Regional | Emerging Markets

## SEIZURES OF SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS IN EUROPE, 2006-2016



- 25 new opioids & **fentanyl**s detected since 2009
- Estonia, Sweden and UK of particular concern

Source: UNODC, annual report questionnaire; EMCDDA Drug Report 2017

## OVERDOSE RATE 2016



## TREATMENT 2016

Main opioids ranked by treatment services in Europe:

- Heroin
- **Methadone**
- **Buprenorphine**
- **Fentanyl**s
- **Codeine**
- **Morphine**
- **Tramadol**
- **Oxycodone**



# Regional | Emerging Markets

## OPIOIDS IN AFRICA AND NEAR/ MIDDLE EAST

Alarming quantities of unregistered/ fraudulent **tramadol** at 120 mg, 225 mg, 250 mg strengths found throughout Near/ Middle East and Africa.

**Tramadol** abuse in Ghana became an issue of interest when in 2016, when intelligence gathered across the country pointed to scattered incidences.

Source: Data, Ghana Food and Drugs Authority, March 2018.  
Photos: Egypt National Council for Drug control

Strength	Quantities
100mg	830 capsules
50mg	7,190 capsules
200mg	93,160 capsules
225mg	97,900 capsules
120mg	210,400 capsules
50mg/ml	1vial
100mg/2ml	3000 vials
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>524,191 Caps and 3001 vials</b>



## SEIZURES 2014-16

**Tramadol** and codeine account for the bulk of synthetic opioids reports seized. Seizures are especially common in **Near/ Middle East and Africa**.

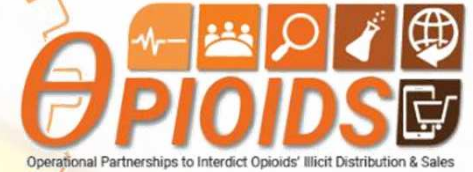
## GLOBAL THREAT

Customs reports Central African Republic, Togo, Mali, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo all reported exclusively **tramadol** seizures. Additionally, 75% of the seizures in Cameroon and Niger were **tramadol**.

Source: WCO Illicit Trade Report 2017

# INCB Global Projects | OPIOIDS Projects

## OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO INTERDICT OPIOIDS' ILLICIT DISTRIBUTION & SALES



1. Develop international agency and industry partnerships,
2. Increase awareness regarding the nature and global scale of synthetic opioids and fentanyl's problem,
3. Support international initiatives that enhance information-sharing and facilitate co-operation for detection and communication of trafficking incidents,
4. Promote tools, task forces, and training that helps ensure safety and security.



# INCB Global Projects | Projects Prism+Cohesion & OPIOIDS

## PRACTICAL APPROACH AT EACH STAGE

## PARTNERSHIPS

Illicit Manufacture

Precursors

Equipment

Tableting machines

Projects  
PRISM &  
ION

Task Forces,  
Special  
Operations  
& Intel  
Sharing

Expert  
Working  
Groups

### Plan and Actions

- Industry Cooperation Trainings (on-going)
- International Special Surveillance List (ISSL) Updated/ Circulated
- INCB Scheduled 2 precursors ANPP and NPP in 2016
- PICS equipment module expansion (underway)
- Equipment Survey (May 2018)
- Expert Working Group on Equipment (Summer/ Fall 2018)

- ICPO/ Interpol
- WCO
- EUROPOL

# INCB Global Projects | OPIOIDS Projects & Project ION

## PRACTICAL APPROACH AT EACH STAGE

## PARTNERSHIPS

Illicit Manufacture

Online Sales

Precursors

Equipment

Tableting machines

Open Internet

Darknet

B2B online Platforms

Projects  
PRISM &  
ION

Task Forces,  
Special  
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& Intel  
Sharing

Expert  
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Groups

Projects  
ION &  
OPIOIDS

OPIOIDS  
Expert  
Working  
Group on  
Internet (Jan  
2018)

Task Force &  
Intel Exercise

### Plan and Actions

- Expert Working Group actions on Internet/ Darknet (Jan 2018)
- Industry cooperation (internet trading companies participated)
- Internet monitoring of fentanyl
- Fentanyl's interdiction & analogues list

- ICPO/ Interpol
- UNODC
- WCO
- EUROPOL

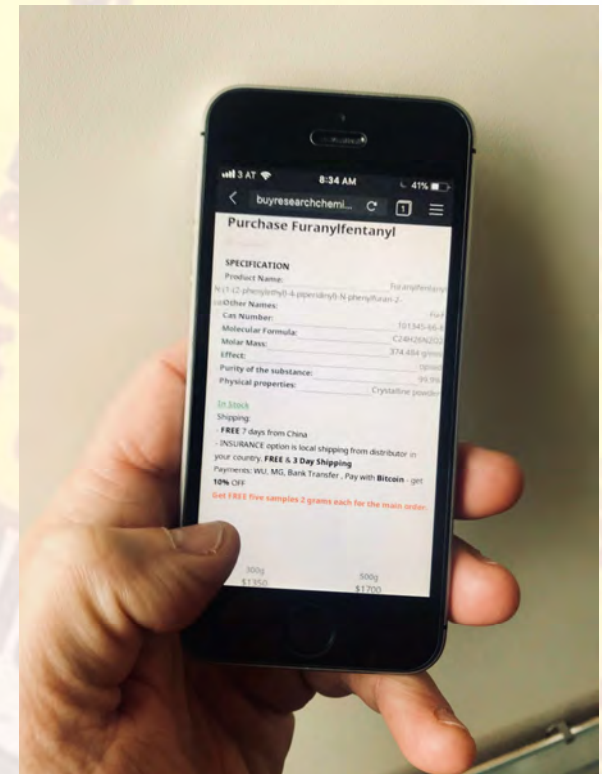


Photo: Online test purchase for newly controlled fentanyl. INCB, 2018



# INCB Global Projects | OPIOIDS Projects & Project ION

## PRACTICAL APPROACH AT EACH STAGE

## PARTNERSHIPS

Illicit Manufacture

Precursors

Equipment

Tableting machines

Online Sales

Open Internet

Darknet

B2B online Platforms

Distribution

Postal

Express Couriers

Air Cargo

- UNODC
- UPU
- WCO

### Plan and Actions

- Universal Postal Union Cooperation Agreement (April 2018)
- Expert Working Group actions on Trafficking via Post and Courier (April 2018)
- Industry cooperation (express mail courier shipping participated)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> INCB Fentanyl situation operational assessment (underway)
- Expand IONICS for all opioids/fentanyl intel and expand access

Projects  
PRISM &  
ION

Task Forces,  
Special  
Operations  
& Intel  
Sharing

Expert  
Working  
Group on  
Equipment

Projects  
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OPIOIDS  
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Task Force &  
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Projects  
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OPIOIDS

OPIOIDS  
Expert  
Working  
Group  
Postal (April  
2018)

# INCB Global Projects | OPIOIDS Projects

## PRACTICAL APPROACH AT EACH STAGE

## PARTNERSHIPS

Illicit Manufacture

Precursors  
Equipment  
Tableting machines

Online Sales

Open Internet  
Darknet  
B2B online Platforms

Distribution

Postal  
Express  
Couriers  
Air Cargo

Financial Flows

Money  
Transfers  
Crypto  
currencies

- ICPO/ Interpol
- UNODC
- UPU
- WCO
- WHO
- CICAD
- EUROPOL

Projects  
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2018)

Task Force &  
Intel Exercise

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OPIOIDS

OPIOIDS  
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Working  
Group  
Postal (April  
2018)

TDB



Photo: INCB, 2018



# INCB Global Projects | New Partnerships

## INCB/ UPU Cooperation Agreement

Synthetic opioids trafficked among the billions of letters and e-commerce packets annually. Cooperation Agreement responds to these challenges by:

- **Sharing** specific intelligence on sources of dangerous drugs and trafficking patterns,
- Provides **access** to IONICS for postal security officers,
- Circulate information and **alerts** on dangerous substances of concern,
- Promote technical **assistance** and safety **training** for officers

INCB is strategic partner positioned with tools, task forces, technical expertise and training options.

## BACKGROUND

Universal Postal Union

192 members states and territories—every place in the world

Signed at  
Operations Council  
April 2018

## BACKGROUND



Photo: UPU, 2018

# INCB Global Projects | Intelligence Sharing

## OAS MEMBERS RECEIVING/ SENDING IONICS ALERTS

Country	Subregion	Access IONICS	IONICS Comms?
Argentina	South America	Yes	Yes
Brazil	South America	Yes	No
Canada	North America	Yes	Yes
Chile	South America	Yes	Yes
Colombia	South America	Yes	No
Costa Rica	Central America	Yes	No
Ecuador	South America	Yes	No
Jamaica	Caribbean	Yes	No
Mexico	North America	Yes	Yes
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Caribbean	Yes	No
Trinidad and Tobago	Caribbean	Yes	No
United States of America	North America	Yes	Yes
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	South America	Yes	No

Only 13 of 34 OAS members access IONICS to receive alerts on trafficking.

Access and training will be expanded for Police, Customs, Postal, Health and Regulatory focal points.

## NO ALERTS

Antigua and Barbuda  
 Bahamas  
 Barbados  
 Belize  
 Bolivia  
 Dominica  
 Dominican Republic  
 El Salvador  
 Grenada  
 Guatemala  
 Guyana  
 Haiti  
 Honduras  
 Nicaragua  
 Panama  
 Paraguay  
 Peru  
 Saint Kitts and Nevis  
 Saint Lucia  
 Suriname  
 Uruguay





Operational Partnerships to Interdict Opioids' Illicit Distribution & Sales



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[@MatthewNiceUN](https://twitter.com/MatthewNiceUN)

OPIOIDS Project

International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Vienna International Centre

P.O. Box 500

A-1400 Vienna, Austria

Telephone: +43-1-26060-4151

[www.incb.org/incb/en/opioids\\_project.html](http://www.incb.org/incb/en/opioids_project.html)



International Narcotics  
Control Board