



**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION**

CICAD

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

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**DETECTING EMERGING SUBSTANCES
NETWORKING & SUPPORT FOR LABORATORIES**



Detecting Emerging Substances

Networking & Support for Laboratories

Presented by Mr Troy Wickham, Deputy Manager
National Council on Substance Abuse, Barbados

www.ncsa.gov.bb

OBJECTIVE

To examine how national laboratories can collaborate at the regional and international levels in order to share information and provide mutual support for the detection of emerging substances

EWS

Overview

An inter-agency mechanism designed to disseminate information

Objectives: Protect Public Health & Assist Law Enforcement

Key player: Laboratory

PRIMARY GOALS

- Increase the accuracy and efficiency of information
- Strengthen the communication between labs in the region
- Increase the interagency interaction





COMMUNICATION AND TRAINING

- Standardized data sharing tools
- Secure messaging systems
- System compatibility
- Regular training sessions

INFORMAL AND FORMAL METHODS

- Minimum Standards
- Regional Networking
- Institutional Strengthening of Laboratories
 - Equipment Upgrades
 - Training & Capacity Building
 - Accreditation
- Sharing Ideas & Methodologies

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Regional Audit of Labs
- Intra-Regional Lab MOUs
- International Donor Support
- Regional Dissemination of EWS Alerts
- Training Webinars/Workshops (Within Lab)



POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Sharing of Best Practices & Techniques
- Development of Protocols for Labs & Stakeholder Agencies
- Labs to be represented at EWS and other meetings
- Establish a Regional Body for Scientists
- Additional Personnel



THE THREAT OF FENTANYL



- Life Saving Equipment
- Train the Trainers -Utilise Lab Personnel
- Increasing Awareness of NPS Threat
- Use Labs to Help Law Enforcement
- Develop Protocols with Law Enforcement
- Regional Security System (RSS) to Assist in Transportation of Samples
- Regional Assistance with Testing of Substances

KEY TAKE AWAYS

Laboratories vary and may use different techniques

Increase information Sharing and Interaction

Assistance for Countries with no Lab Support

Donor Agencies - Institutional Strengthening