

Presence of DOB (2,5-Dimethoxy-4-Bromoamphetamine) among samples submitted to a Drug Checking service in Spain

P. Quintana^{1,2}, M. Grifell^{3,4}, Á. Palma^{3,4}, C. Gil¹, I. Fornís¹, L. Galindo⁴, M. Torrens^{3,4,5}, M. Farré^{4,6,7}, M. Ventura^{1,4}

¹Energy Control, Associació Benestar i Desenvolupament, Barcelona, Spain. ²EAP Raval Sud, ICS, Barcelona, Spain.

³Institut de Neuropsiquiatria i Addiccions, Parc de Salut Mar, Barcelona, Spain. ⁴IMIM (Hospital del Mar Medical Research Institute), Barcelona, Spain. ⁵Departament de Psiquiatria, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.

⁶Departament de Farmacologia clínica, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.

⁷Hospital Germans Trias i Pujol, Servei de Farmacologia Clínica, Barcelona, Spain

Introduction

New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) appear to be increasing in popularity because they mimic the effect of traditional drugs. DOB is a world-wide controlled phenethylamine, with agonist activity in 5HT_{2A} receptors. Its effects are comparable to those of LSD but have a longer onset (30-90min) and duration (18-30h).

Objective

To assess the presence of DOB in the substances submitted to, and analyzed by, Energy Control.

Materials and methods

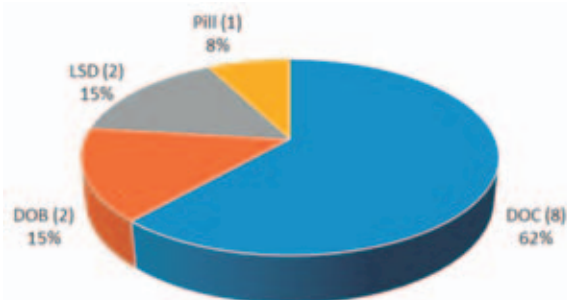
We studied all samples analyzed between 2008 and August 2015 (n=21.406) in which DOB was found. Energy Control is a Spanish harm-reduction NGO that offers to drug users the possibility of analyzing the substances they intend to consume.

Results

Number of samples containing methylphenidate delivered per year (n=20.333)



Samples containing Methylphenidate were delivered as (n=17)



9 out of total 13 samples were presented as blotter.



DOB submitted as an LSD blotter

Conclusion

Results suggest that availability of DOB in the Spanish drug market is anecdotic and may be decreasing. Nonetheless, a number of the samples containing DOB were not sold as such, increasing the possibility of side effects, as users may ignore which substance they are actually using. When a patient presents at an Emergency Department with persistent hallucinogenic symptomatology after ingesting a blotter, psychiatrist should be aware of long-lasting psychedelics such as DOB.

Supported in part by grants of Instituto de Salud Carlos III-FEDER (RTA RD12/0028/0009), and The European Commission (Drug Prevention and Information Programme 2014-16, JUST/ 2013/DPIP/AG/4823, EU-MADNESS project). L. Galindo is a Rio Hortega fellowship (ISC-III; CM14/00111).