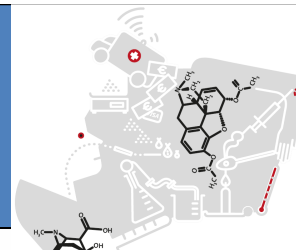


Cocaine & heroin adulterants



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Objectives

The work lines of the politics are based on the persecution on drug dealing, development of detox and maintenance programs, and the decrease of the harms caused by the drug use.

Our proposal is to stimulate interest in studying and researching drugs adulterants. A goal of this work is to collect information about distribution, price and adulterants.

Health centers have many opportunities to improve community health. One of them is to give information among drug users about the adulterants of the substances that they will consume with the purpose of avoiding acute reactions to consumption.

Material and Methods

Survey among active intravenous drugs users in Barcelona.

We collected socioeconomic and consumption data and the users were asked to give a part of their samples to be analyzed before their intravenous consumption.

Discussion

Based on our observations, we think that the current economical crisis is reducing the drug use.

Based on this idea an eventual rise of prizes on heroine and cocaine could decrease the use, or even unpredictable effects like an increase of criminal acts.

In the acute reactions of a consumption, medical adulterants intervene to rise the profits, some of them are added in the same country where it has been produced. On the way drugs go through from the production until the final user many more times the products gets adulterated in order to get more profit.

Because of this it is important to perform periodical analysis of the substance in order to inform the users and trying intervene by controlling the adulterations, or at least the most dangerous ones.

Results

Data from 63 men and 31 women were collected. 70 of them use cocaine, and 76 use heroin. Both substances alone or mixed. 69 were intravenous drug users. 17 samples can be analyzed.

The additive substances found in cocaine samples were **caffeine, lidocaine, procaine, phenacetine, tetracaine** and **levamisol**; **paracetamol** and **caffeine** in a heroin sample.

	HEROIN	COCAINE
Caffeine	x	
Paracetamol	x	
Diluyente	x	
Unknown substance	x	
Phenacetine		x
Lidocaine		x
Tetracaine		x
Levamisol		x
Procaine		x

Conclusions

Studies of Hospital Services can be involved in real street research.

In this study we reviewed proceedings of a high morbidity such as illicit drug consumption. The knowledge of main adulterants of intravenous samples enables us to study effects and interactions, to achieve the best healthcare and to develop educational programs among drug users.

