Pharmacologically Active Adulterants Identified Worldwide through ITAD (2018-2021)

Purpose: This report is to provide information collected on toxic adulterants collected by the data sharing initiative, *ITAD* (the International Toxic Adulterant Database), and an overall summary of what toxic adulterants were identified in participating countries.

Overview: The identification of toxic adulterants have become more prominent in seized drug material. ITAD was created in 2018 as a way for different laboratories around the world to share their findings, document the prevalence of toxic adulterants and educate the public about the associated health risks associated with chronic ingestion. This data sharing initiative was a direct result of the first International Symposium of Forensic Drug Testing Laboratories.

Objective: Provide information on international toxic adulterant identifications, to show the diversity in adulterant profiles despite geographic proximity among countries and provide relative percentages of samples containing a specific adulterant by country.

Data Source: Between 2018 and 2021, sixteen (16) laboratories that are participants in the ITAD program submitted data related to drugs seizures and adulterants that was compiled and tabulated in Microsoft Excel®.

Testing: The different submitting countries were asked to follow SWGDRUG guidelines for confirmation in order to be able to report any drug material and adulterant(s) identified in the sample. Examples of technology used for identification by participating laboratories include Raman, GC/MS and GC/FID.

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