



Emerging Drugs of Abuse in Hong Kong

HATS Conference 2011
Dr SH Ng, Hong Kong Poison Information Centre

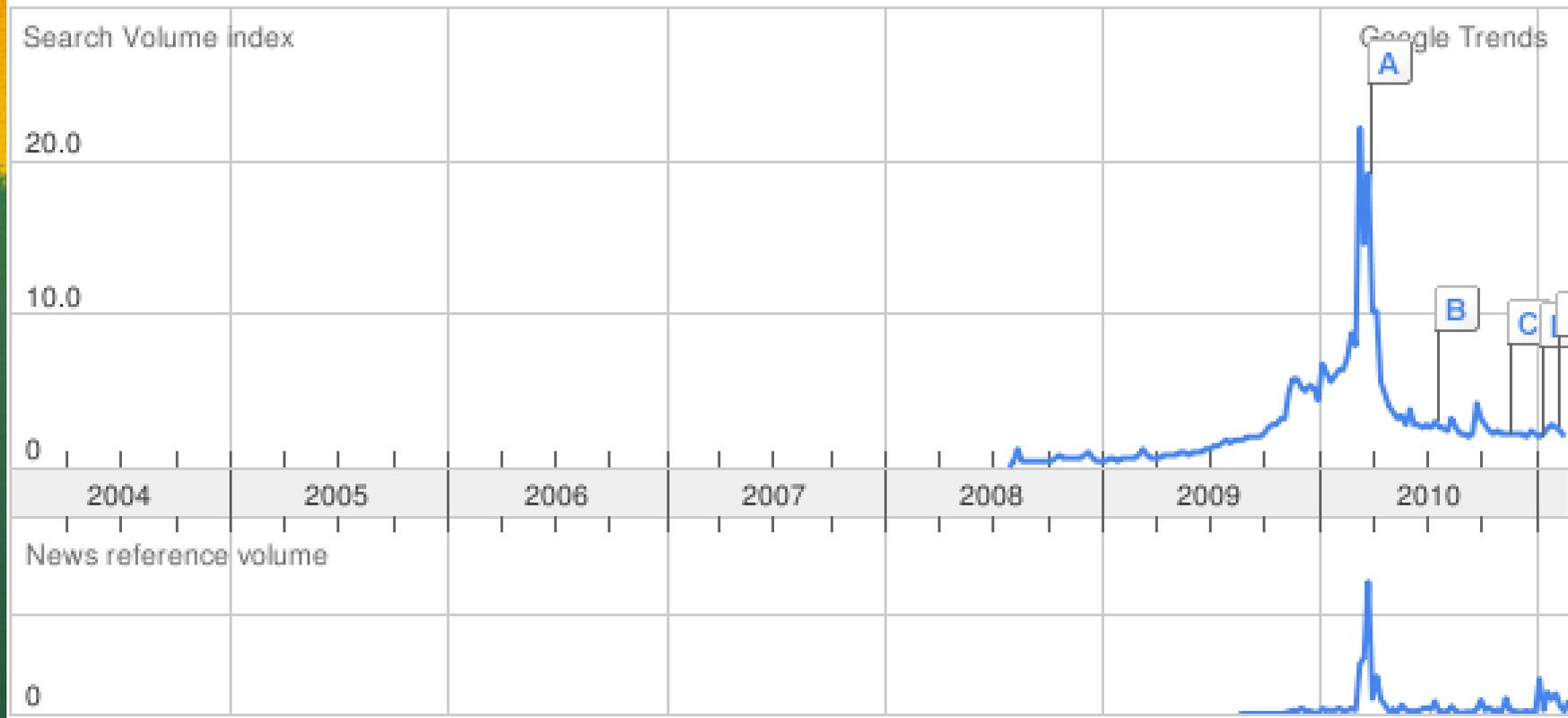
- Cathinone derivatives
 - Mephedrone
- Piperazine derivatives
 - BZP, TFMPP
- Synthetic cannabinoids
 - K2
- And many others



The background features a stylized landscape. The top and bottom sections consist of dark green, semi-transparent mountain peaks. The central section is a bright yellow-orange field with a fine, textured pattern. The word "Mephedrone" is centered in the yellow-orange field.

Mephedrone

mephedrone ————— 1.00



Regions

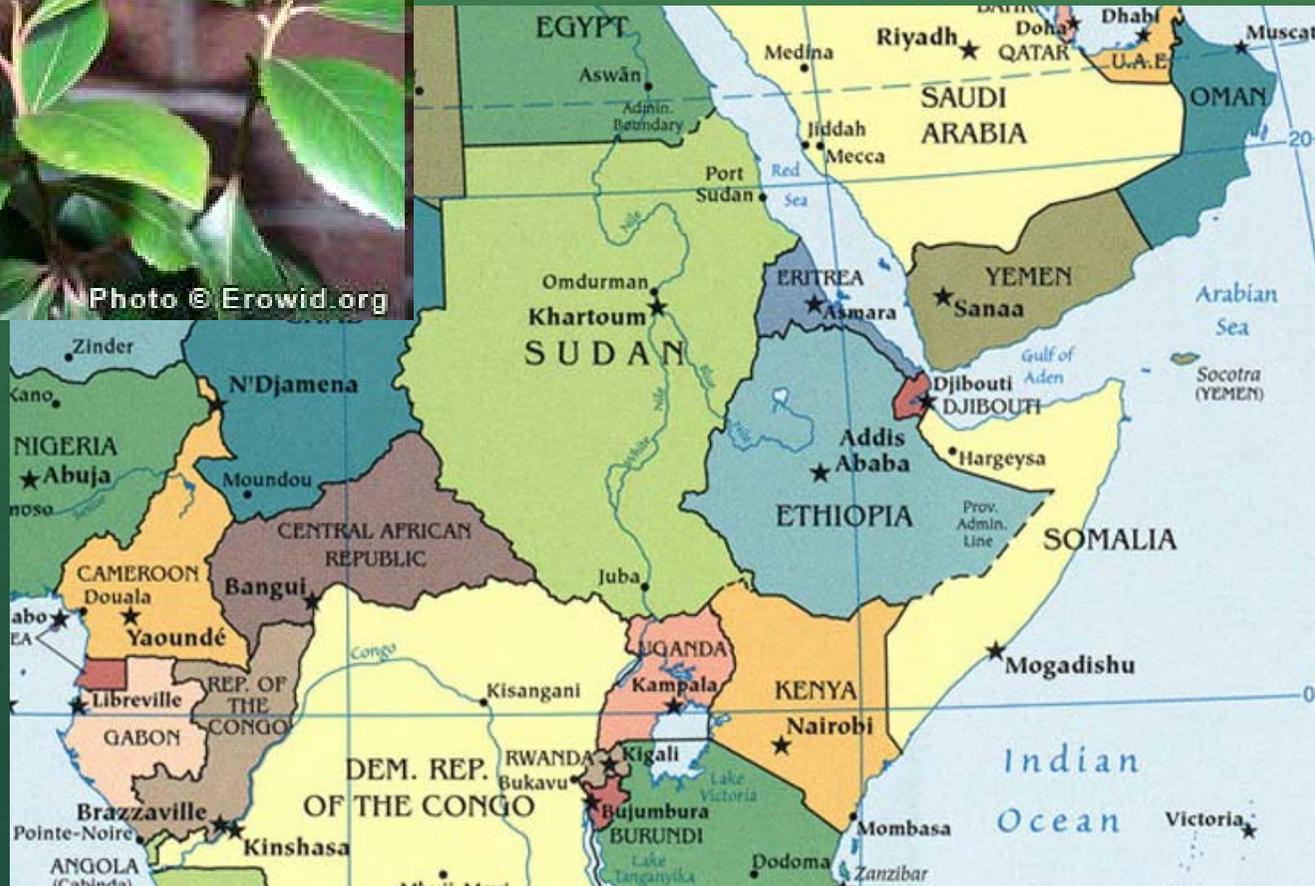
1. [United Kingdom](#) —————
2. [Ireland](#) —————
3. [Sweden](#) —————
4. [Hungary](#) —————
5. [Netherlands](#) ———

- A** [UK government will ban 'legal high' mephedrone](#)
San Jose Mercury News - Mar 29 2010
- B** [Inquest hears of teenager's mephedrone tragedy](#)
Independent - Jul 21 2010
- C** [Dane Bowers arrested over mephedrone drug bust - Daily Gossip](#)
NME.com - Nov 19 2010
- D** [Mephedrone sold as plant food, used as recreational drug 'meow meow'](#)
kspnews.com - Jan 12 2011

Horn of Africa



Photo © Erowid.org



<http://www.capitaleritrea.com/wp-content/uploads/Horn-eritrea-map.jpg>

Khat

Catha edulis
African salad, bushman's tea, gat, kat ...
Casual settings / religious ceremonies
UK, USA ...

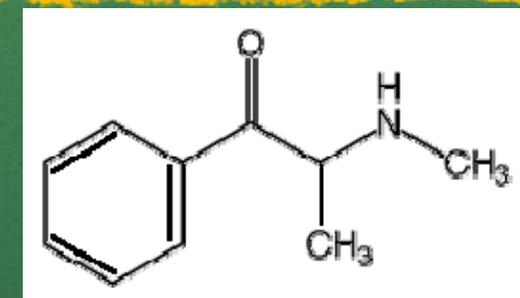


<http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/s1142762.htm>



<http://www.justice.gov/ndic/pubs3/3920/index.htm>

Cathinone, methcathinone, mephedrone



Methcathinone

(Ephedrone, Cat, Jeff,
Mulka)



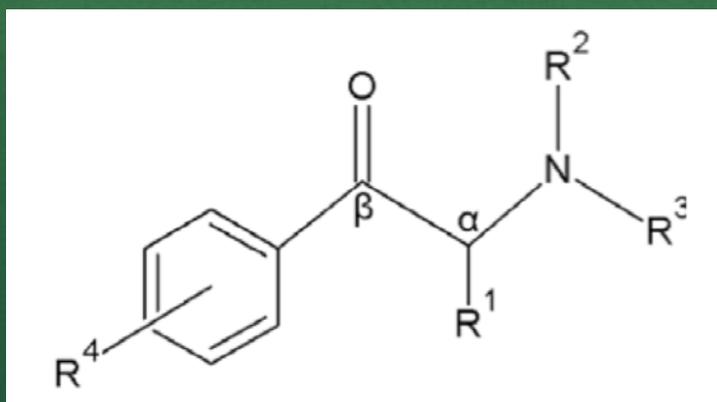
4-Methyl-methcathinone (4-MMC)

Methyl-**e**PHEDRONE

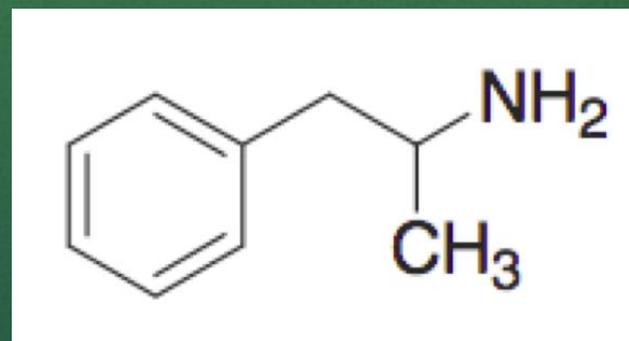
Miaow, Meow Meow, meph,
MCAT

- Other cathinone derivatives:
 - Methedrone (4-methoxymethcathinone)
 - Methylone (cathinone analogue of MDMA)

Cathinone ~ Amphetamine



Cathinone backbone



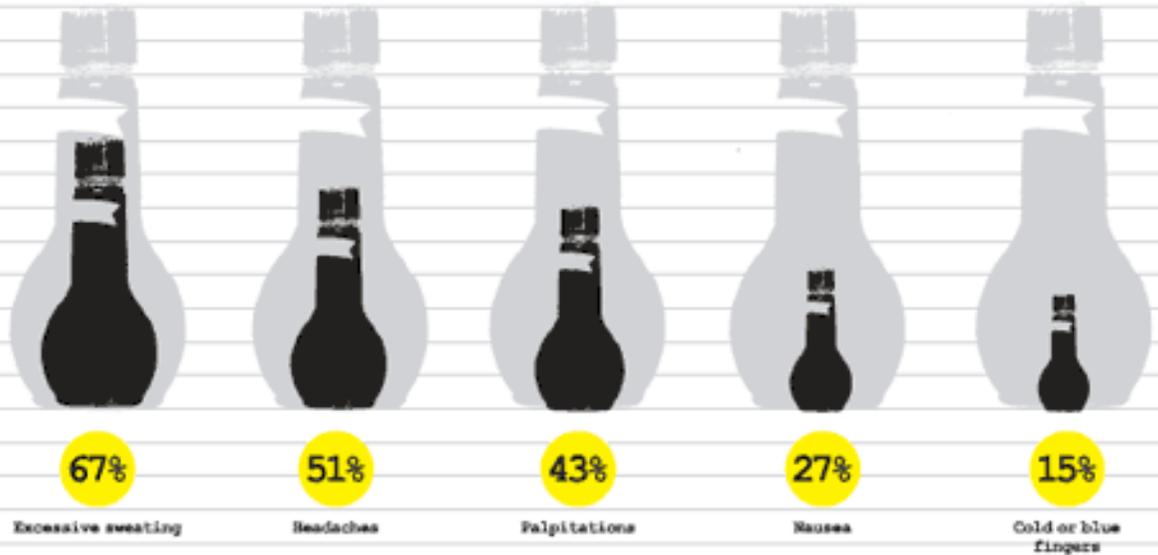
Amphetamine

Mixmag Drug survey 2010



41.7% had tried mephedrone

(cannabis 93%, ecstasy 91%, Salvia 29.2%, 2CB 18%, Spice 12.7%, methylone 10.8%)



www.mixmag.net/mephedrone

Excessive sweating

Headache

Palpitations

Nausea

Cold or blue fingers

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Breaking News

Emerging trends and substances used as "legal highs" seminars
Jan 28 2011
Crew is delivering a couple of awareness raising seminars in February in...

Are you worried about someone's drinking behaviour?
Jan 20 2011
Lothian Alcohol Problems Service and VOCAL Family Support Service are...

Phenazepam
Jan 13 2011
Information about phenazepam, a drug which there has been a lot of interest...

Support | Drugs A-Z | Volunteer | News | Services in your area

“ Crew neither condemns nor condones drug use. We recognise that both legal and illegal drugs have positive and negative aspects in their use. ”

Our philosophy →

- **Insufflation (snorted)**
 - 25-80 mg
 - Onset 5-10 mins
 - Effect 1-2 hrs
- **Oral ingestion**
 - 75-150 mg
 - Onset 15-45 mins
 - Effects up to 3-5 hrs



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/10004383>

mephedrone2u.com

yo! we supply a laboratory grade plant growth enhancer. simply amazing results are possible.
homepage buy mephedrone digital scales disclaimer postage mephedrone news

**mephedrone, buy mephedrone, 4-
methylephedrone, 4-MMC, 4-
methylephedrone**

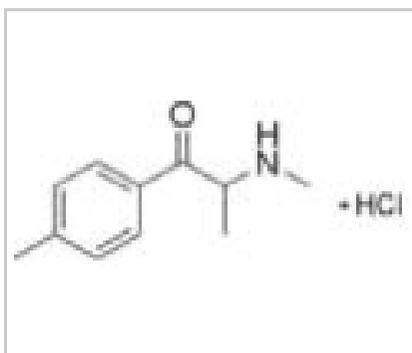


**We also offer same day delivery in London for a small fee,
or come collect from North London.**

**This product is not sold for human consumption. Consuming this product can result in ill effects.
Adverse effects can include; extreme insomnia, asphyxiation, paranoia, anxiety-ridden comedowns.
I have read of 2 deaths said to be related to the consumption of Mephedrone.**

Only sold for use as plant food.

- Plant food, Plant regulator, Bath salts, Research chemicals ...
- Not for human consumption



Mephedrone (HCl) new

Country of Origin: Made In China Product Description:

Product Name: **Mephedrone HCl** Other Name: 3,4-

Keywords: Mephedrone

TRUST&WE Co.,Ltd.

Manufacturer - Beijing China

<http://www.diytrade.com/china/4/products-list/0-k-c-1/Mephedrone.html?&qr=cn>



Clinical characteristics of mephedrone toxicity reported to the UK National Poisons Information Service

D James, R D Adams, R Spears, et al.

Emerg Med J published online August 25, 2010
doi: 10.1136/emj.2010.096636

- Mar 2009 – Feb 2010
- 131 Telephone enquiries on mephedrone
 - Agitation / aggression 24%
 - Tachycardia 22%
 - Confusion / psychosis 14%
 - Nausea 11%
 - Palpitations 11%
 - Peripheral vasoconstriction 8%
 - Convulsion 3%

Clinical features

- Similar to amphetamines
 - Sympathomimetic toxicities
 - Hypertension, tachycardia, agitation, hyperthermia, ACS
 - Local effects
 - Peripheral vasoconstriction
 - Others: chemical smell etc
- Deaths have been reported

G Model
FSI-6297; No. of Pages 3

ARTICLE IN PRESS

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Forensic Science International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/forsciint

Rapid communication

A case of extreme agitation and death after the use of mephedrone in The Netherlands

Klaas J. Lusthof*, Roelof Oosting, Ann Maes, Miranda Verschraagen, Albert Dijkhuizen, Annette G.A. Sprong

Department of Pathology and Toxicology, Netherlands Forensic Institute, Laan van Ypenburg 6, 2497GB The Hague, The Netherlands

Long term effects

- High dependence potential
 - Induced tolerance on repeated dosing
 - Strong cravings for the drug
 - Rated similar or addiction and dependence potential as cocaine from mephedrone users
- Psychosis associated with Khat long term use
- ↓ Frontal concentrations of dopamine and serotonin

Is it a threat to HK?

2011/02/16 台灣首頁 香港首頁 壹週刊



Seizure of small amount of mephedrone in HK in June 2010



倪姓少女與友人在汽車旅館內拉K並服用「喵喵」，結果意外猝死。

頭條要聞 > 國內首例「喵喵」害死17歲少女 >

點閱(27095) 轉寄(0) 引用(5) 字級: A A A 分享: [Facebook icon] [Twitter icon]

國內首例「喵喵」害死17歲少女

新興毒品竟未列管 朝野轟修法慢半拍

2010年05月04日 蘋果日報

【綜合報導】國內出現首宗疑服用新興毒品Mephedrone（俗稱「喵喵」）死亡案例。一名十七歲少女與男性友人前天在汽車旅館內嗑藥，晚上被發現全身赤裸、口吐白沫倒在浴室，送醫不治。檢警相驗研判，少女疑吸食K他命混搭「喵喵」死亡，而該新興毒品在國內未列毒品管制，買賣、販售及施用都無法可管，朝野立委痛批法務部修法慢半拍，恐讓台灣毒品亡國。

Piperazine derivatives

Piperazines: a new class of drug of abuse has landed in Hong Kong

Hong Kong Med J Vol 16 No 1 February 2010

WT Poon, MSc, FHKAM (Pathology)

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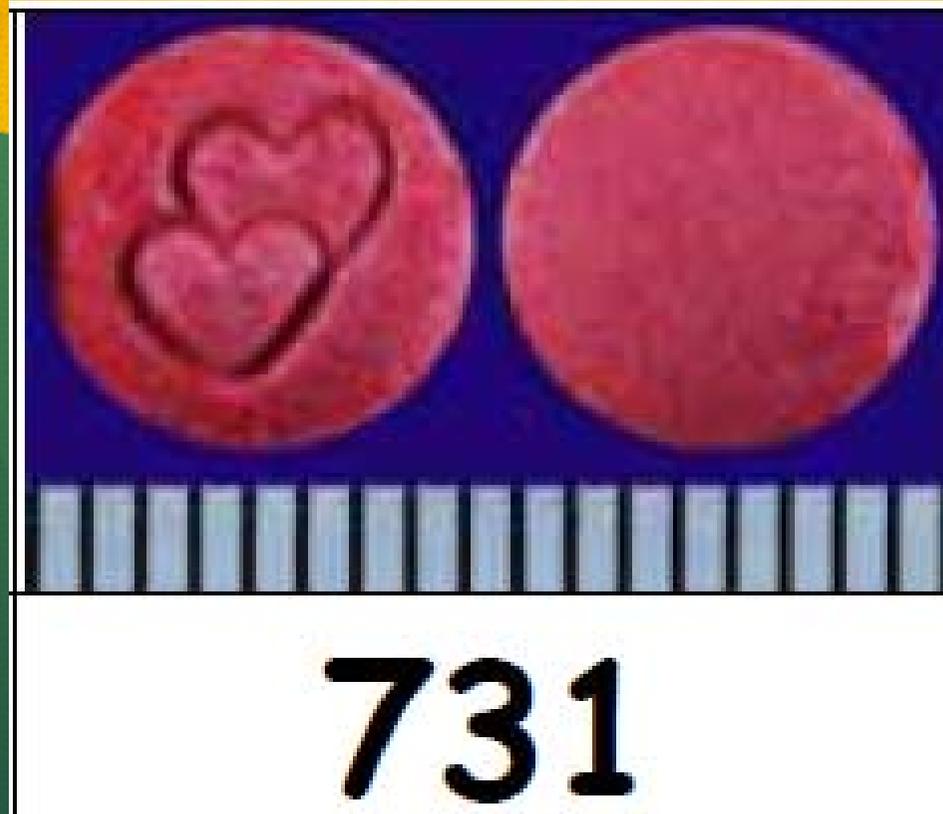
Hospital Authority Toxicology Reference Laboratory
Princess Margaret Hospital

- M/28
- Tachycardia and chest discomfort
- Cocaine, ketamine, TFMPP and its metabolite in urine

杜蟲花塔餅成新迷幻藥

28歲男濫用不適入院

團體促規管



Monthly Drug Bulletin

(November 2009)

Controlled Drugs Sections

(Copy for Hospital Authority)

Forensic Science Division

Government Laboratory

HKSAR

First seizure in HK since May 2009

Up to 9/2010, Gov't Lab identified **5892 tablets** of piperazine derivatives

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr10-11/english/panels/se/papers/se1111cb2-205-1-e.pdf>

Piperazine Designer Drugs

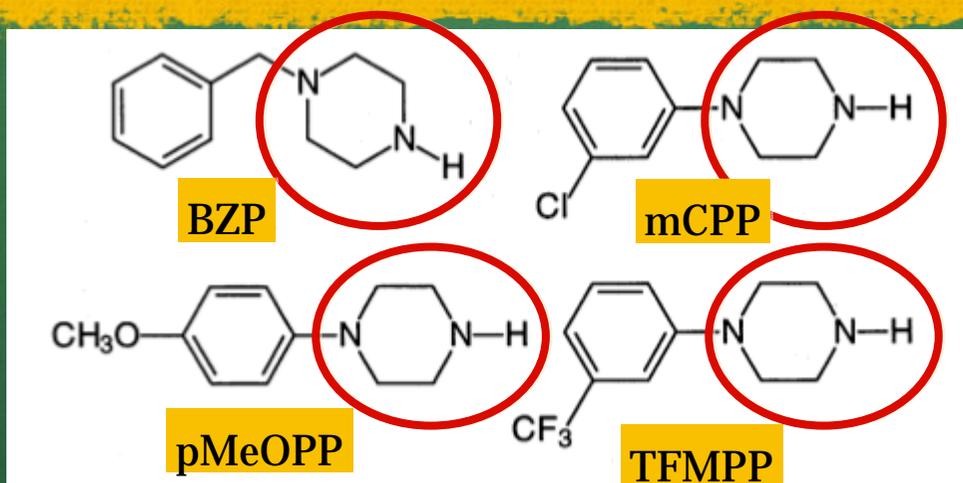
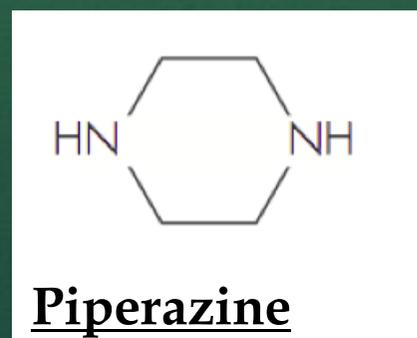
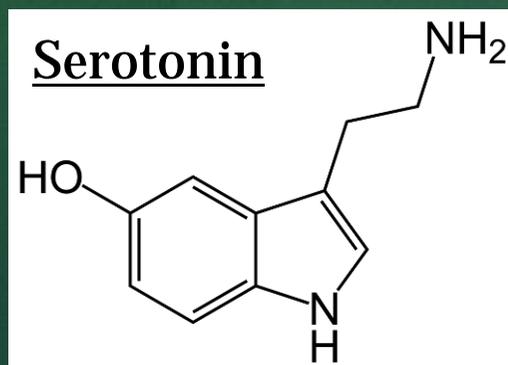


Fig. 1. The chemical structures of (A) 1-benzyl-piperazine; (B) 1-[3-chlorophenyl]-piperazine; (C) 1-[4-methoxyphenyl]-piperazine; (D) 1-[3-trifluoromethylphenyl]-piperazine.



- Anti-helminthics, anti-histamines (cyclizine), anti-depressant (trazodone, nefazodone)
- Structural similarity to serotonin, can be made more specific with appropriate substituents

A Long Long List

Recreational Drugs

- 4-Bromo-2,5-dimethoxy-1-benzylpiperazine (2C-B-BZP)
- 1-Benzylpiperazine (BZP)
- 2,3-Dichlorophenylpiperazine (DCPP)
- 1,4-Dibenzylpiperazine (DBZP)
- 4-Methyl-1-benzylpiperazine (MBZP)
- 3-Chlorophenylpiperazine (mCPP)
- 3,4-Methylenedioxy-1-benzylpiperazine (MDBZP)
- 4-Methoxyphenylpiperazine (MeOPP)
- 4-Chlorophenylpiperazine (pCPP)
- 4-Fluorophenylpiperazine (pFPP)
- 3-Trifluoromethylphenylpiperazine (TFMPP)

Most Popular

TFMPP

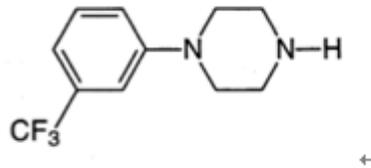


Fig.2 Molecular structure of TFMPP

Molecular formula: C₁₁H₁₃F₃N₂

Molecular weight: 230.23 Daltons (anhydrous); 266.69 (HCl)

CAS number: 15532-75-9 (anhydrous); 16015-69-3 (HCl)

BZP

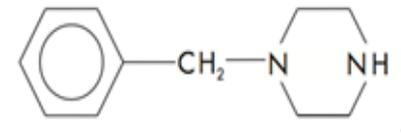


Fig.3 Molecular Structure of BZP

Molecular formula: C₁₁H₁₆N₂

Molecular weight: 176.26 Daltons (base); 249.19 Daltons (2HCl)

CAS numbers: 2759-28-6 (base); 5321-63-1 (2HCl)

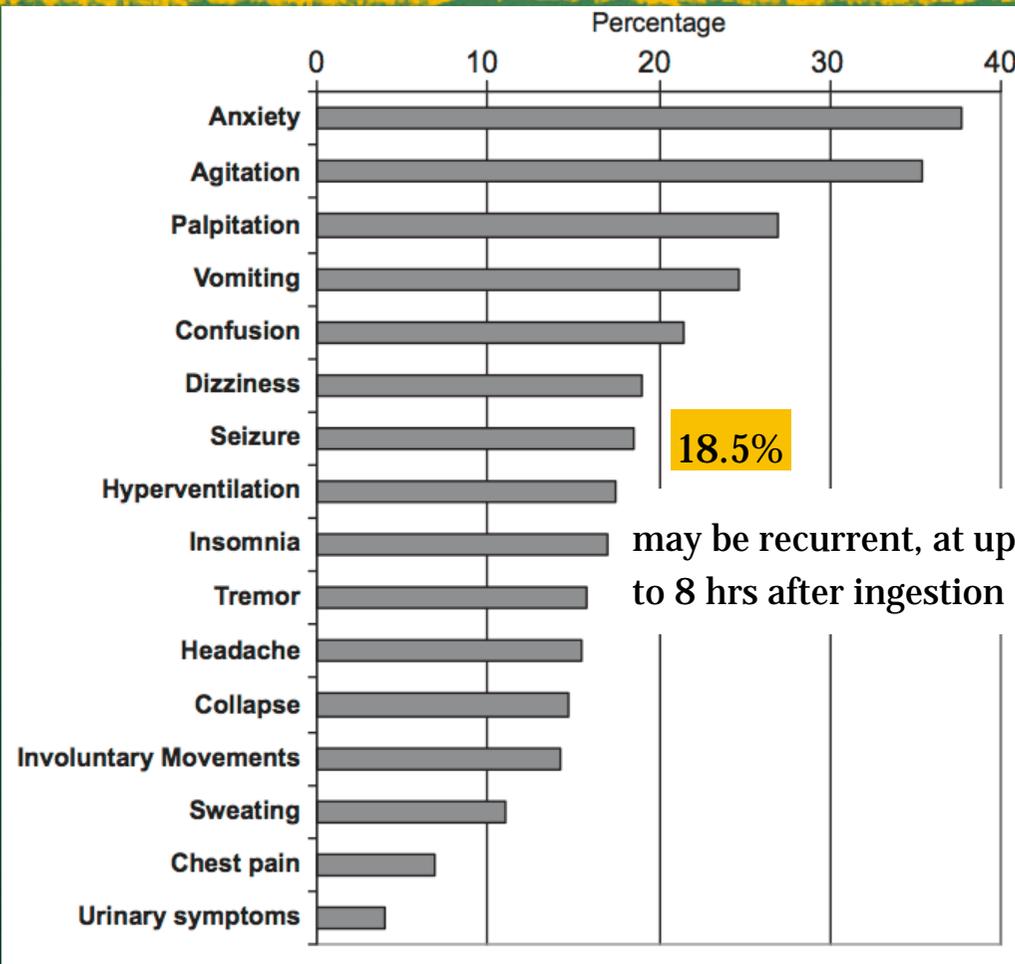
Pharmacodynamics

- **TFMPP**
 - 5HT₁ 5HT₂ agonist
 - LSD like effect
 - Often mixed with BZP outside HK (↑ DA and 5HT ~ MDMA)
- **BZP**
 - ↑ release and ↓ reuptake DA, 5HT, NE
 - d-Amphetamine like

As DOA in 1990s in USA, then to Europe, UK, Japan ...

Epidemics in Australia / New Zealand since 2000s

Clinical Effects



Clinical Toxicology (2008) 46, 802–807

- 178 cases, 4/2005 – 7/2007
- Average 3.89 pills taken
- Many symptoms persisted > 24 hrs
- 2 patients with severe sympathomimetic toxicity reversible multiple organ failure
- 2 seizures with profound metabolic acidosis

Multiorgan failure from 1-benzylpiperazine ingestion – legal high or lethal high?

PAUL GEE¹, TOM JERRAM², and DAVID BOWIE³

¹Department of Emergency Medicine, Christchurch Hospital, Christchurch, New Zealand

²Emergency Department, Christchurch Hospital, Christchurch, New Zealand

³ICU, Christchurch Hospital, Christchurch, New Zealand

- 2 cases of life-threatening BZP toxicity required prolonged hospitalization
- Status epilepticus, hyperthermia, DIC, rhabdomyolysis, renal associated with BZP +/- MDMA ingestion
- Deaths have been reported

HKPIC experience

	Place	Purported drug	Clinical features	Remarks
F/24	Disco in TST	糖仔 (likely 糖 , which is Ecstasy)	Intense discomfort, anxiety, nausea. HR 100 bpm, drowsy, dilated pupils	Known ketamine abuse TFMPP and Phentermine in urine
M/34	Private club in TST	Ecstasy	Flushing, dry mouth, restlessness, hotness, palpitations BP 152/110 mmHg, HR 120 bpm. Dilated pupils	Known cocaine abuse TFMPP , ketamine, MA, amphetamine, cocaine, nimetazepam in urine
M/34	Private club in TST	Ecstasy	Hotness, dry mouth, palpitations, generalised discomfort, agitation. BP 158/97 mmHg, dilated pupils	TFMPP , ketamine, cocaine in urine

Patients aware of the different experience

Management

- Supportive
- Titrated dose of benzodiazepine
- Co-ingestions
- Lab detection
 - TFMPP can be detected by HA Toxicology Reference Laboratory



電子郵箱: news@oriental.com.hk
爆料熱線: 3600 9999
爆料傳真: 3600 9900

合成草藥未列禁 吸後興奮如大麻

Spice / K2



新毒品 K2

殺殺入嘍界



本港年輕人毒禍問題仍未解決，美國又再湧現另一毒害，一種由亞洲製造，名為K2的合成草藥，在吸食後會產生與大麻相若的興奮反應。由於當中不含大麻成分，在美國多個州份均沒有監管，吸食後亦不會被驗出，加上網上容易購買得到，以致當地吸食者眾，近半年更有數十宗年輕人因吸食K2而求診的個案，大部分患者感呼吸困難，心跳加速等。香港暫時仍未發現第一宗吸食K2的個案，但各禁毒單位密切留意該類另類毒品會否流入香港。專家提醒，不要將香薰植物隨便燒成煙草吸食，因為吸入大量不知名的化學物，可能會對身體造成未可估計的損害。

■圖、文：探射燈小組

K2外觀與一般香草和茶葉無異，不過當捲成煙卷燃燒吸食，就會揮發出類似四氫大麻酚（T.H.C.），這正是大麻的主要成分。會令吸食者亢奮，得到快感，吸食方法和效果與大麻無異。據知，K2在亞洲製造，再轉售各地，當中成分除了迷迭香等香草外，還會加上不同的化學合成物質，從而產生出這種檢驗不出大麻成分的另類毒品。

正因不含大麻，所以美國大部分州份未有立法列禁之禁，除網上售賣外，有店舖亦公然出售，以三克重為一包售賣。本報在互聯網亦輕易發現K2的足磅，更有不同味煙選擇，以原味的售價最便宜，每包的為十五至三十美元，如購買量多，更可獲得折扣優惠，包裝上雖列明「屬於純性的草本香薰，不宜食用。」不過當地的中學生、大學生和輕因吸食K2情況非常普遍，近半年更愈來愈多年輕人吸出禍來。

歐列藥品 美擬管制

心跳加速、呼吸困難，近半年美國喬治亞州已接獲至少二十人求診，最嚴重者是一名年輕人陷入昏迷。據當地分析，其他吸食K2的副作用包括嘔吐、妄想、精神恍惚、容易激動和瞳孔放大等，情況已愈受國際關注。歐洲多個國家更已將此列為違禁品，而美國堪薩斯州在上月初亦已正式立法禁止銷售或吸食，其他州份正考慮加以管制。

網上海貨 難以禁絕

香港城市大學生物及化學系副教授張漢揚指出，四氫大麻酚是製造大麻的主要化學物，會影響人體的神經系統，令人失去判斷力。而合成化學物的結構並不複雜，可輕易提煉或合成出來，部分天然的高級植物也可達到同樣效果，故以其他合成化學物取代四氫大麻酚，製成令人亢奮的假代物並不困難。

的確，除了K2，歐洲和美國等地真的有多種產生類似吸食效果的另類毒品，名稱有MOJO、3G4等。而英國一種本是花肥，但已被用作非致性毒品的Miaow-minow，吸食後回會產生與可卡因、搖頭丸等效果，上月中就有人在吸食後死亡，累計已有廿五宗與之有關的死亡案例。當地已擬正將此列為禁藥。

不過對於這種另類毒品，國際間均擔心只會禁之不斷，張漢揚補充，化學物本身有不同的用途，而且從坊間也輕易購買，即係今次立例禁止某類化學合成物，但「煙高一丈，魔高一丈」。其他人也可改用其他化學物，根本難以完全禁絕。

身兼禁毒事務委員會戒毒治療及康復小組委員會主席的資深精神科醫生張建良表示，外國近期流行吸食草本香薰，在醫學上已證實會產生幻覺。不過，香港尚未發現第一宗吸食草本香薰的個案，反映該類毒品未在本港流行。而現時各禁毒單位有恆常機制監測新毒品，如公立醫院及香港化驗所等機構不時會在尿樣檢本中抽檢非名單內的化學物，觀測有否新類型毒品登陸本土。張呼籲市民，不要將香薰植物隨便燒成煙草吸食，吸入大量不知名的化學物，容易對

部分歐洲國家將K2列作違禁品，但美國大部分州份仍可合法購買得到。
(互聯網圖片)



陳小姐(學生)

有關部門應該呼籲青少年吸導導勢，發現有人吸食煙草(K2)，就應該採取措施，例如全面禁止入口。



黃先生(學生)

如果多人食，就係係藥物，但可能有些藥物，政府要小心處理。



容小姐(學生)

其實呢煙草都係一種毒品，好可能仲會取代大麻，既然影響係一樣，就唔到有咩理由由政府唔管。

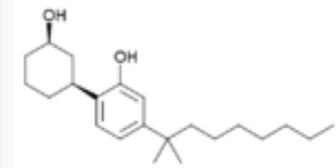
市民點睇

- “Legal” Cannabis
- Actually plant / herb laced with synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonist (cannabicyclohexanol; CP47,497; **JWH-018**; JWH-073; and JWH-2000)
- Toxicity similar to cannabis

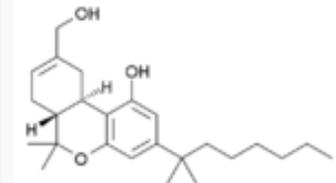
Erowid Experience Vaults

**Nearly Identical to MJ But Longer Lasting
Spice Product ('Silver')**
by [mixmaster](#)

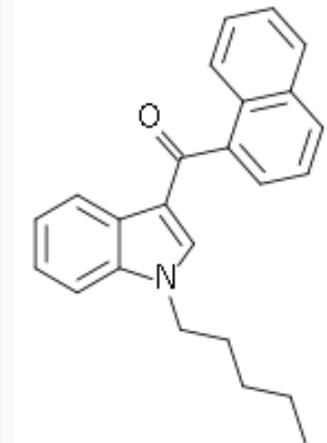
Cannabicyclohexanol



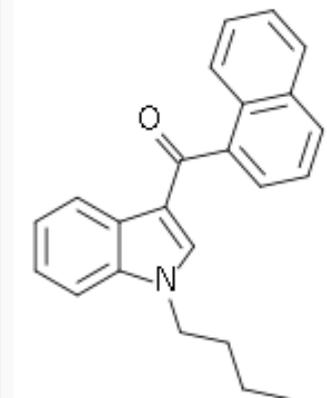
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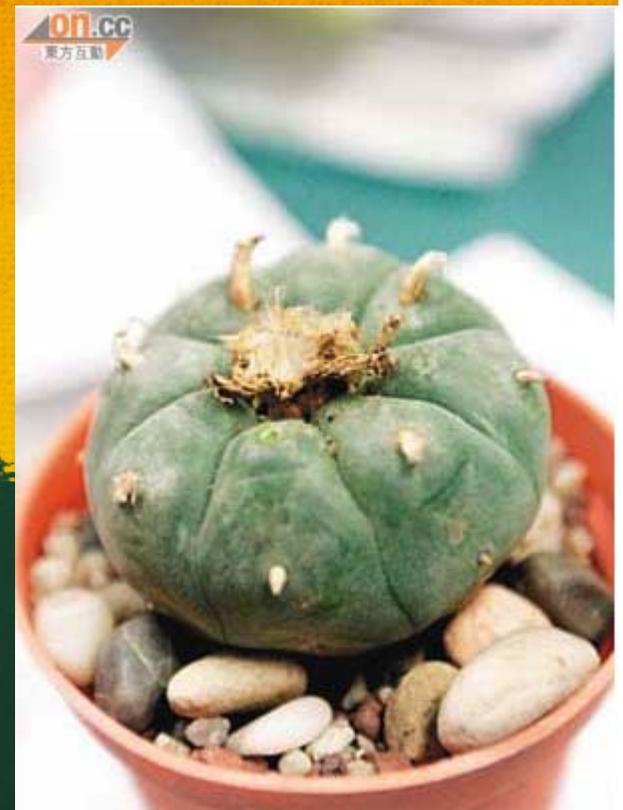
JWH-018



JWH-073



Peyote
“Psychedelic Cactus”
迷幻仙人掌



烏羽玉 Peyote



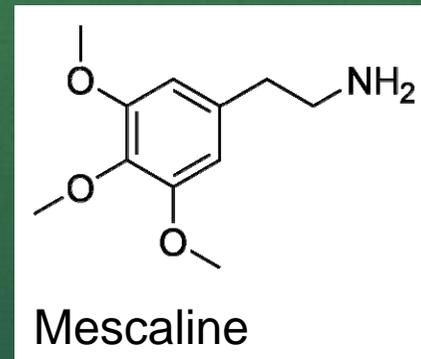
合法進口的仙人掌
烏羽玉含有迷幻成分，
濫藥者將之切片咀嚼，
或者榨汁，都能產生
迷幻效果。(設計圖片)

旺角花墟隨處有售的無刺仙人掌，竟然是新興毒品！本刊發現，仙人掌品種叫烏羽玉，含迷幻藥成分，咬一口，藥力約等於一粒半忽得，效力長達十小時，近來已有人買來服食，或當迷幻派對的飲品。

原來當警方打擊K仔、搖頭丸時，吸毒潮流已悄悄轉向一些容易合法買到的新毒品。除了仙人掌，一款杜蟲藥亦因有迷幻作用，醫管局半年內收到至少五個有濫藥習慣的年輕人，因服用這杜蟲藥的原料後，不適送院。

合法新毒品 花墟有售

Peyote Button



The image features a central horizontal band with a color gradient from orange at the top to yellow at the bottom. This band is flanked by two green sections, each containing a repeating pattern of overlapping, semi-transparent triangles that create a layered, mountain-like effect. The word "Others" is centered in the orange-to-yellow band.

Others

A recent case

- Young gentleman. Good PH.
- Dyspnoea x 1/7
- SpO₂ 90% on O₂ 6L / min
- CXR clear, ECG unremarkable
- Methaemoglobin level 2.4% (next day)
- Hb 5.4 g/dL, intravascular haemolysis

- Hx of ecstasy use. Inhaled some gas 2-3 days before



http://shanghaiist.com/2009/10/11/just_what_gets_you_high_in_china_does_one_get_po.php

淘宝网

所有分類 > 成人用品/避孕/計生用品 > 寶貝詳情

【修緣居】加拿大RUSH-情愛芳香劑-10ml

一口價：**39.00** 元

促 銷：**店鋪VIP**

至香港：快遞：16.0元 EMS：20.0元

30天售出：**0**件 (已有**0**人評論)

付款方式：支付寶卡通 網銀支付 找人代付 消費卡
網點支付 支付寶餘額

我要買： 件 (庫存47件)

立刻购买 **加入购物车**

所在地區：北京 瀏覽次數：17次
寶貝類型：全新 收藏人氣：2 (類似收藏)

Poppers

(Alkyl nitrite, 情愛芳香劑)

- Popular in male homosexual
- May use repeatedly in a single party
- Methaemoglobinaemia
- Haemolysis
- Retinal toxicity

- 3 cases of Poppers associated side effects reported to HKPIC since last year

格仔舖拍賣網出售 控煙辦零檢控

青少年吸煙早成趨勢，近年連帶充滿中東風情的水煙，亦成為年輕人的潮流玩意。不過，在港將水煙煙草或煙膏售予未成年人士乃屬犯法，惟本報追查發現有格仔舖及拍賣網，未有查問顧客年齡，便向青少年兜售含尼古丁的水煙。負責執法的控煙辦，竟然在過去三年從未檢控相關的違規人士。立法會議員狠批控煙辦執法不力，漠視水煙入侵年輕一輩。

■文：黃燕雯、陳偉豪 圖：李西全



在格仔舖一格櫃內擺放了水煙吸食工具。

老土當時興

靚界吸水煙扮潮

售賣潮流物品的格仔舖近年愈開愈多，本報記者日前在旺角一個商場內，赫然發現有格仔舖出售吸食水煙的工具及煙膏。該格櫃內放置了兩款水煙工具，每套水煙工具均由四部分組成，包括售一百九十八元的水煙壺、近百元的水煙膏，以及數十元的易燃炭及水煙嘴。記者向店員查

障礙」下，亦可輕易於拍賣網購得煙膏或煙草，售價更較格仔舖便宜，只需數十元，亦可選擇在格仔舖交收，在場有專人教授吸食方法。

社交網驚現鼓吹群組

最近社交網站亦有人設立群組教吹吸食水

（右圖）批評控煙辦執法不力，只管普通香煙而忽視水煙漸成為潮流，惟當局卻有法不執。他說：「樓上酒吧好多未成年人士去，食水煙有機會上癮，影響身體健康。」另一方面，他稱，當局亦應加強宣傳，表明售賣水煙煙草及煙膏予未成年人士屬違法。



格仔舖店員（右）向青少年講解水煙的吸食方法。

Shisha, Hookah

東方日報 2010年8月28日

A lot of false information from internet

水煙是透過水利用碳和煙草來抽煙

沒有焦油

尼古丁含量只有1%

不會上癮

菸草大部分都是水果味

甜甜的

在我聞起來很像純氧的味道

就國中時做實驗的那個純氧

他們兩個在店裡試抽的情形很好笑

阿彪嗆到

紅豆則是抽完後接嘴的吸管順勢被他弄下來

我是沒興趣啦

不過他們一副當場就要買的樣子

我看以後聚會他們就會在旁邊吞雲吐霧吧

反正比較健康也沒有二手菸害

青蛙之前有再問.....

我怕介紹給他下學期我們寢室就多一支了XD

總之想抽煙的朋友請抽水煙

健康又無害

Case of carbon monoxide poisoning after smoking shisha

Beng Leong Lim • Ghee Hian Lim • Eillyne Seow

Int J Emerg Med (2009) 2:121–122

DOI 10.1007/s12245-009-0097-8

- Not well understood
- CO poisoning
- Nicotine, carcinogens, heavy metals contents

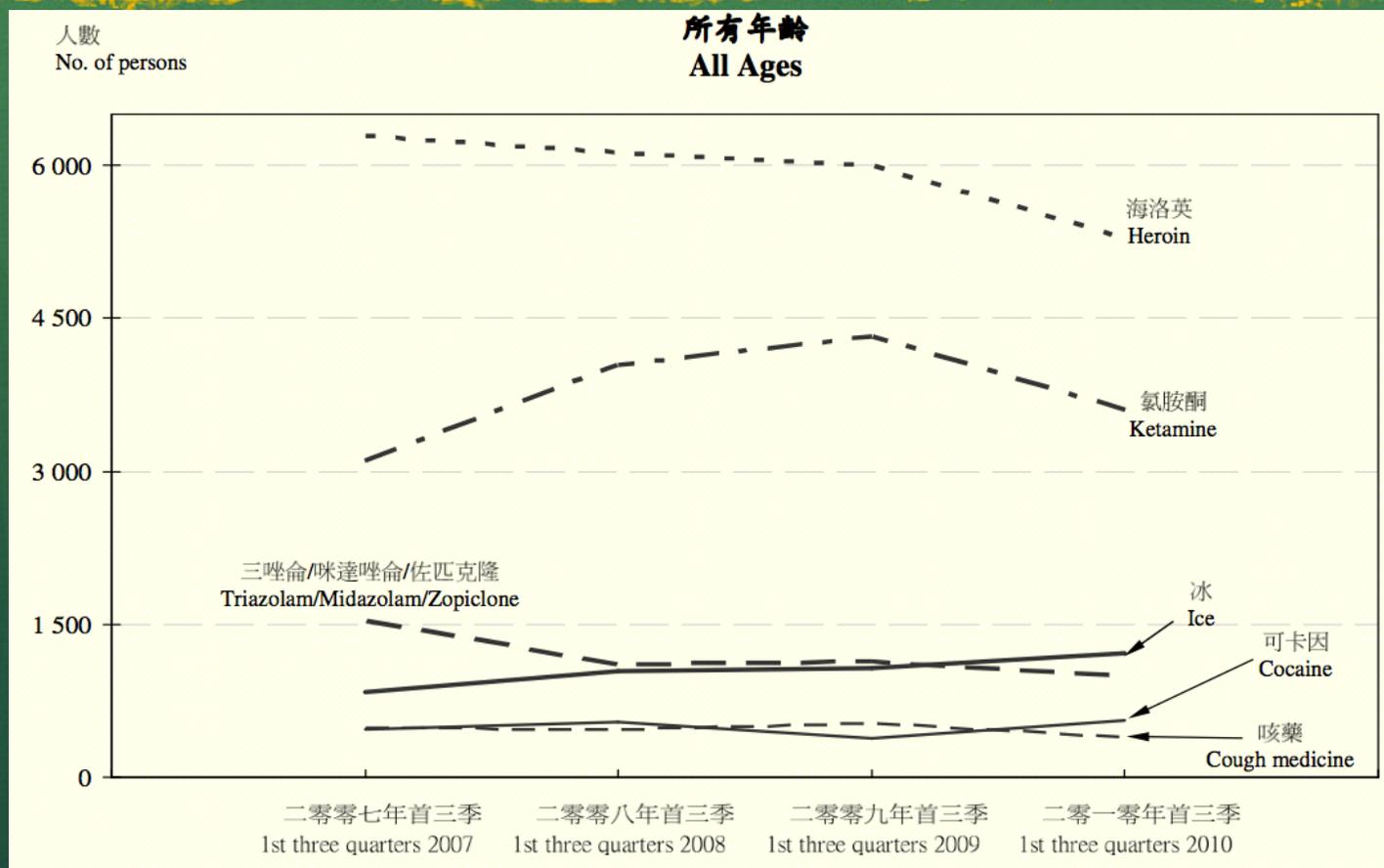
- Demand vs supply
- Marginal benefit
- Prevalent drug of abuse
- Marketing strategy

Will these ever be popular in HK?

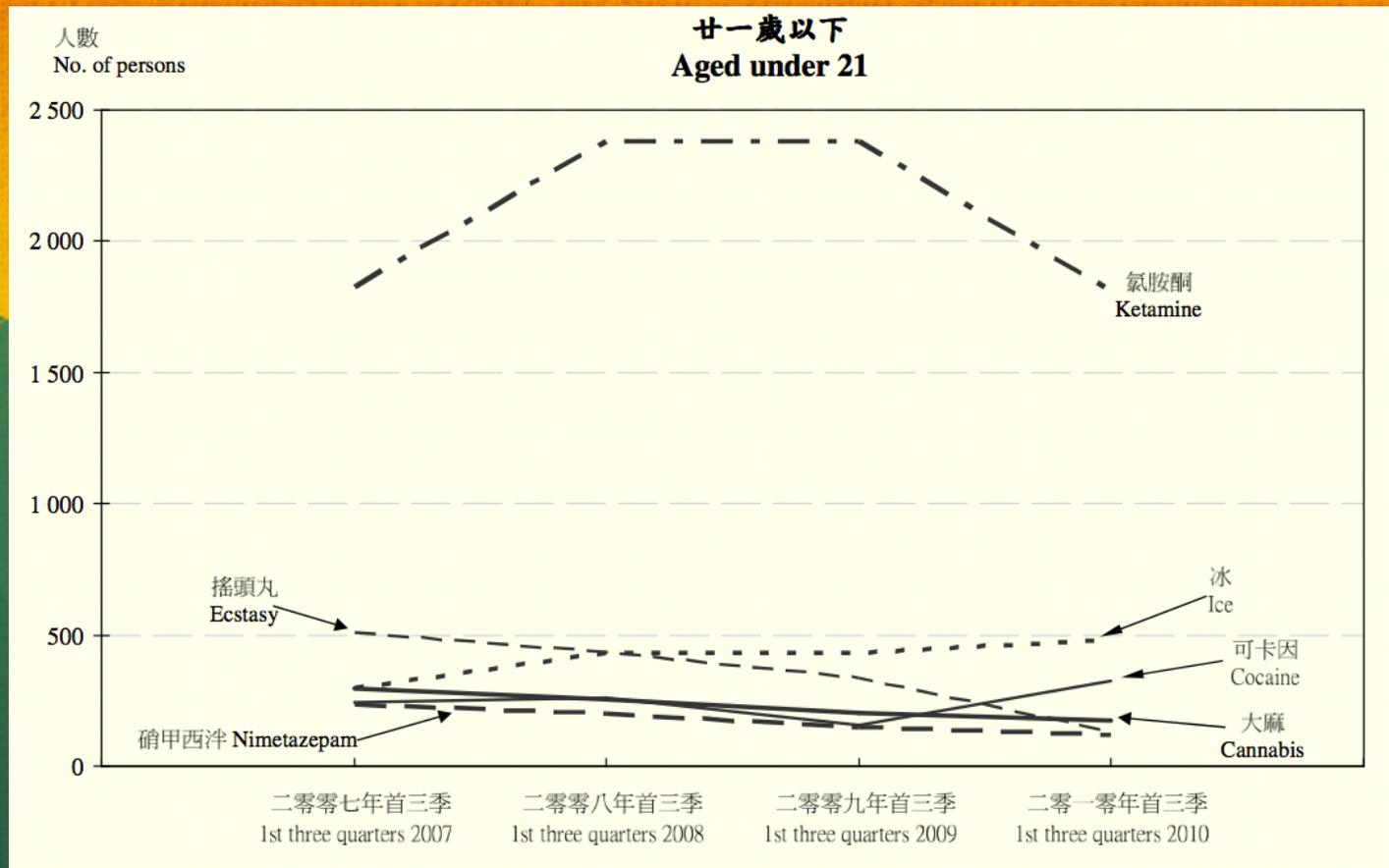
Mephedrone popularity in UK

- A reduction in purity of MDMA and cocaine
 - Cocaine: > 60% in 1999 down to 22%
 - ½ ecstasy seized in 2009 did not contain MDMA
- Easy accessibility
 - Online
 - Parties, head shops ...
- “Legal” status
 - Perceived less harmful and more socially acceptable

Drug abuse scene in HK

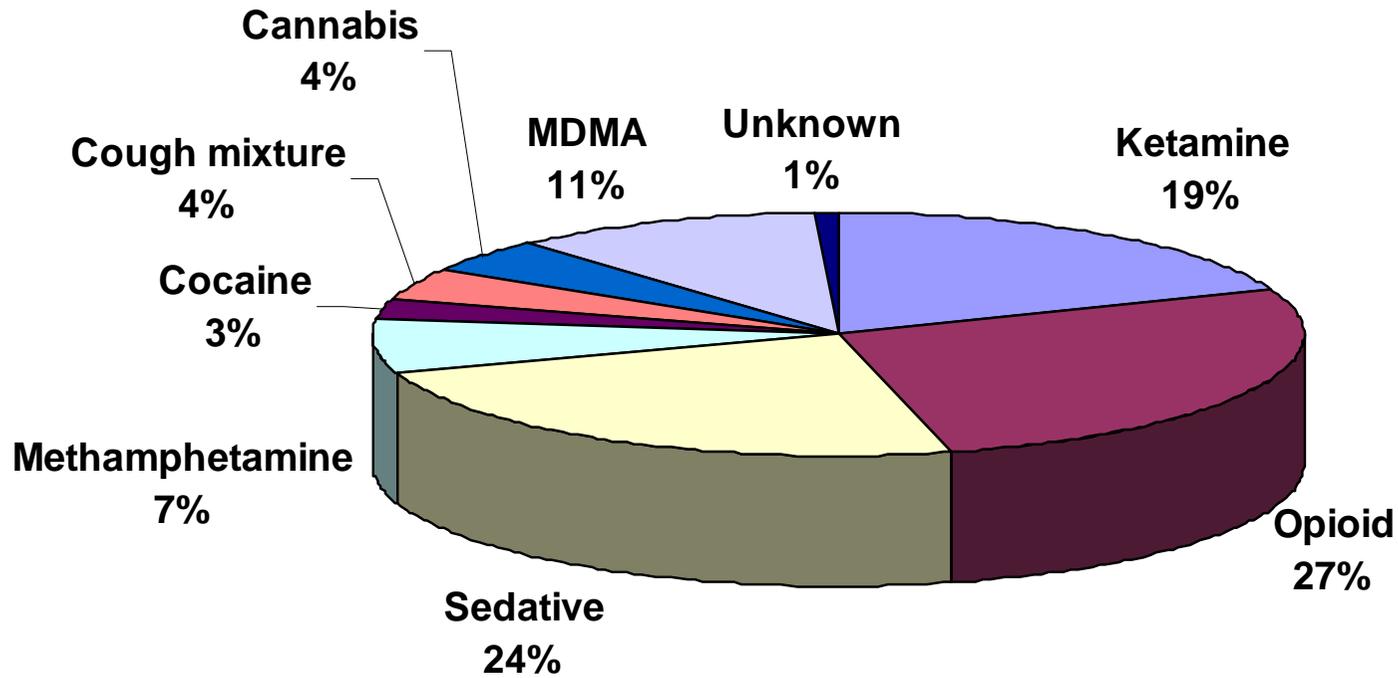


http://www.nd.gov.hk/statistics_list/doc/chart3.pdf

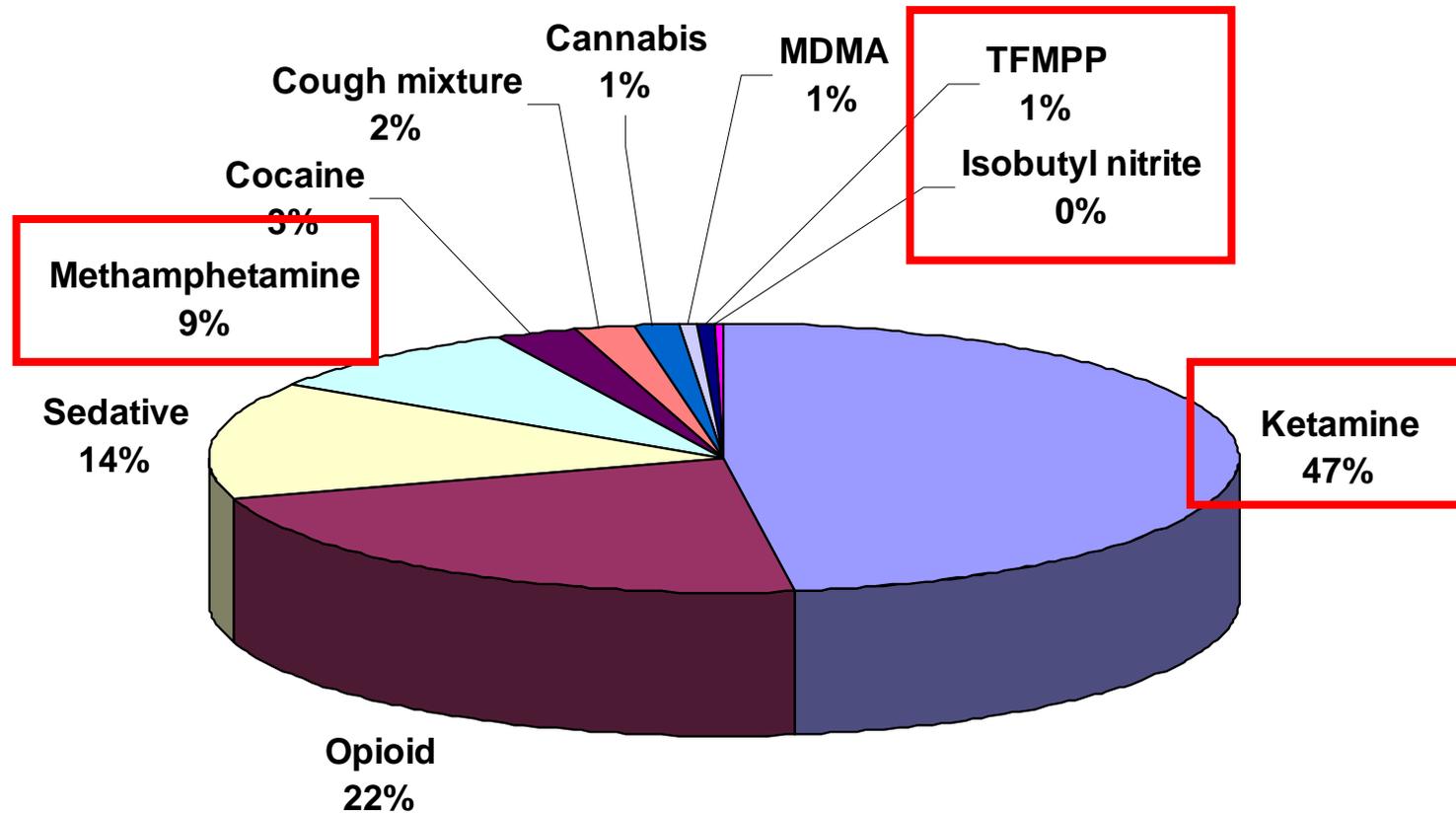


- Ketamine purity ~ 90%
 - Methamphetamine > 90%, Cocaine ~80%, Heroin 50-60%
- Easy to use
- Sales network
- Peer effects

HKPIC (2006, n=217)



HKPIC (2010, n=536 preliminary)



- DOA in HK
 - Conventional – ketamine, heroin, MDMA, Methamphetamine, cocaine, sedative ...
 - Emerging – TFMPP, ? Mephedrone, K2, Peyote, Poppers ...

The next ketamine?

- Not a simple Downer



- Probably not an Upper

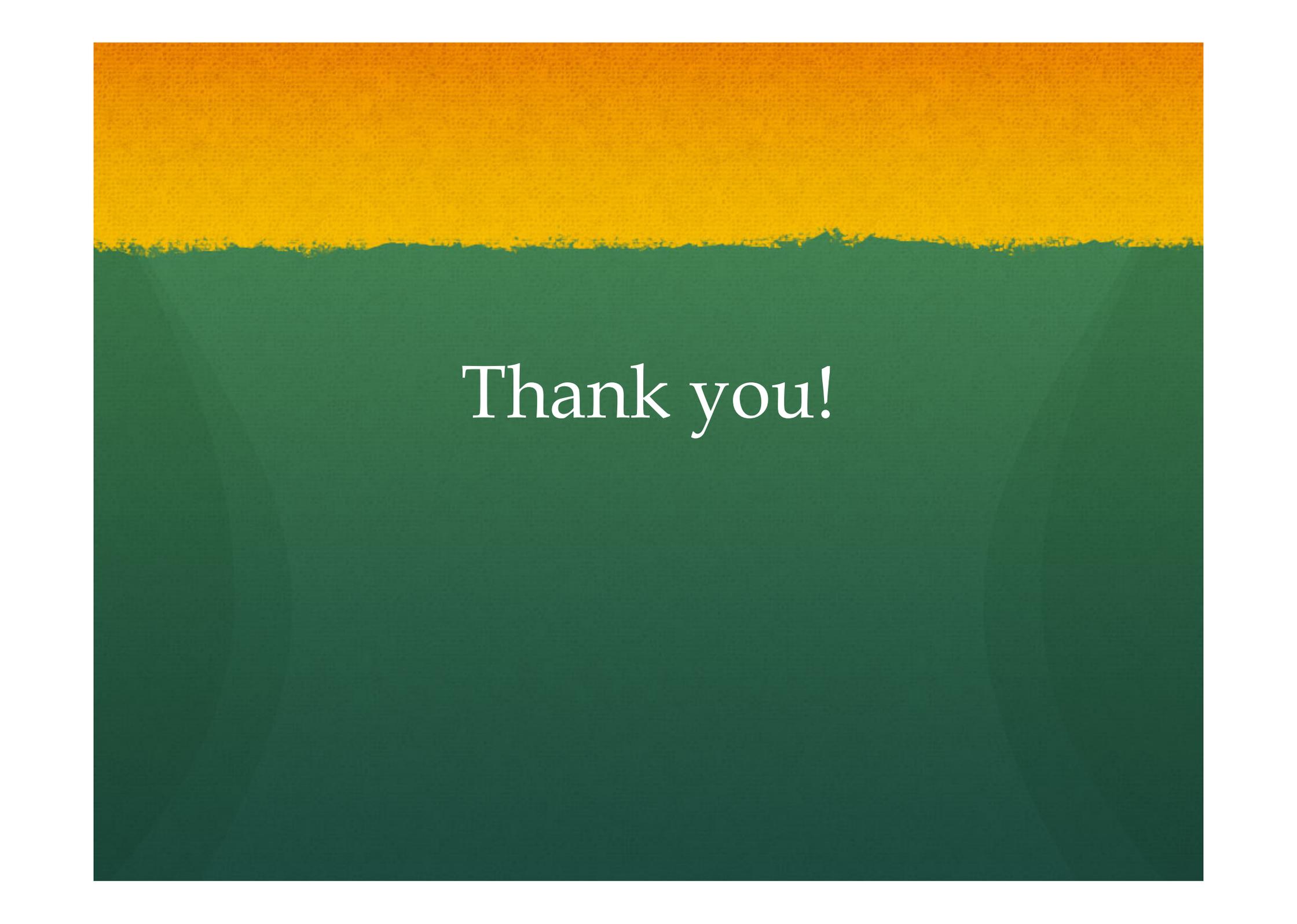


- Convenient

- Cheap

Effective 1 April 2011

- First schedule to Dangerous Drugs Ordinance
 - Piperazine derivatives
 - Cathinone derivatives
 - Synthetic cannabinoids
- Schedule 2 to the Control of Chemicals Ordinance
 - 1-[(2-Chlorophenyl)-N-(methylimino)methyl]cyclopentanol (precursor to ketamine)



Thank you!