

PARALLEL SESSION 3D
Drugs in clubs: trends and tests

Drugs deposited in drug boxes at clubs used as input for drug monitoring

Peter Van Dijk and Raymond Niesink
Trimbos Institute, The Netherlands

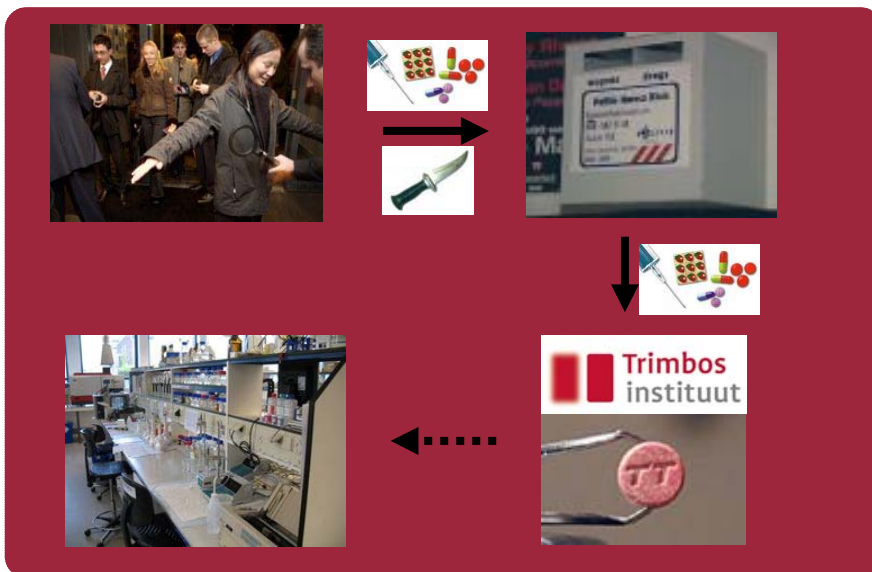
In the past, there have been frequent conflicts in clubs in Amsterdam over weapons and drugs that were confiscated by bouncers when searching visitors. To resolve these conflicts, the police in Amsterdam in 2002 started to place drug deposit boxes at clubs' entrances to deposit the weapons and drugs that are confiscated. This project not only proved to contribute to safety, but it also offers an insight into which drugs are being used. The police hand over the confiscated drugs to the Drugs Information and Monitoring System (DIMS). DIMS then investigates the drugs that are found in the deposit boxes. As part of this, drugs are qualitative and quantitative analysed in a laboratory. Since DIMS is already carrying out an existing drug monitor, the results of this investigation, which will be presented at this conference, are compared with those of the existing monitor. The comparison shows that the drugs from the deposit boxes form an accurate representation of the drugs in circulation. A similar project is currently being carried out in England. Both projects show that this is a successful way of gaining insight into the market of illicit drugs in the club scene. The results of the monitor provide important surveillance and data for public health and preventive aims.

Drugs deposited in drug boxes at clubs used as input for drug monitoring

Peter van Dijk

Trimbos-institute
Drugs Information and Monitoring System (DIMS)

Club Health 2006

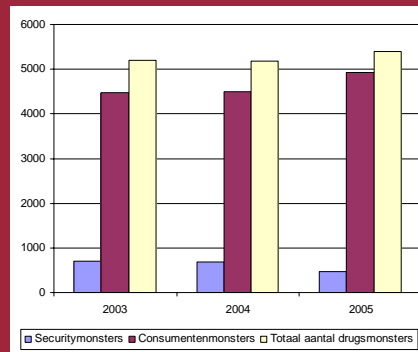






±5000 drug samples
from drug boxes

Selection goes for analysis
to lab



Changes and trends on drug market seen with exciting monitor
also seen with drugs from drug boxes

	average consumer samples	average drug box samples
MDMA	77.5 mg	77.3 mg
Cocaine	54.3 %	44.7 %
Amphetamine	35.2 %	15.8 %
GHB	40.1 %	38.1 %
LSD	93.4 ug	24.0 ug

Contact:

