

# As Britain loses its War on Drugs, what will happen in 2024?

April 2024

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(D4DPR)



# As Britain loses its War on Drugs, what will happen in 2024?

The last two years:

- Nitazenes in Birmingham and the UK
- Unintended consequences of Prohibition
- The story of Afghan heroin
- The story of SCRA (synthetic cannabinoid receptors)
- The story of Xylazine
- What will happen next

Three young men who did not know each other, died in Birmingham in 2021-22.

- 2 students and a young business man, aged 19, 20 and 27 yrs.
- They all separately thought they had bought **oxycodone pills**.
- They were not people who used heroin.
- Toxicology showed **n-pyrrolidino etonitazene**.

Date of death	Gender Age	Cause of death	Place of death
October 2021	M 20	1a .SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19 infection (post-mortem RT-PCR test positive). Arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy. Synthetic opioid <b>(N-pyrrolidino etonitazene)</b> toxicity. Acute ethanolic intoxication. 11. Benzodiazepine <b>(Alprazolam)</b> consumption. <b>Zopiclone</b> consumption.	Home
January 2022	M 27	1a <b>N-pyrrolidino etonitazene</b> toxicity 11 <b>cocaine</b> and <b>flualprazolam</b> use. Left Ventricular Hypertrophy	Home
January 2022	M 19	1a Combined toxicity of <b>N-pyrrolidino etonitazene</b> and <b>flualprazolam</b>	Home

# Why are **nitazenes** here now?

**-1950s** nitazenes were first discovered and described in scientific papers.

**-2019:** China controlled fentanyl and its precursors.  
Chinese underground chemists experimented with other synthetic opioids.

**-2020-2021** First wave of Nitazenes i“new” synthetic opioids first arrived in the UK from China in pills, disguised as Oxycodone or as one of the benzodiazepines.  
Contributed to deaths of 3 young people in Birmingham and other teenagers around the UK.

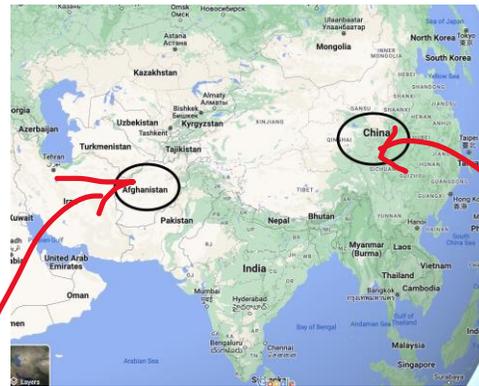
**- 2023:** Taliban reduced poppy crop by 95%.

**Second wave of nitazenes in the UK: summer 2023**

“Nitazenes” found in “heroin” contributed to at least 28 deaths in Birmingham since June 2023  
2024 will be worse as heroin becomes scarce and expensive



95% of Europe’s illicit heroin comes from Afghanistan.  
Crop successfully reduced by 95% in 2022-23.  
(Photo: Talking drugs)



China, world's fentanyl source, to finally control drug



Charles Fain Lehman  
December 3, 2018

China will finally add fentanyl and its analogs to its list of controlled substances, following a Saturday meeting between Chinese president Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump.

Synthetic opioid fentanyl and it’s precursors successfully controlled by China in 2019

# Prohibition in Afghanistan: 2nd wave of nitazenes in Birmingham and across the UK:

June/July/August 2023

A different population at risk:  
This time people who use heroin.

- June/December 2023: 28 people died (confirmed by inquest).
- Toxicology found **n-desethyl isotonitazene**
- **Deaths were among people who normally used heroin.**
- Most were people who were living in hostels and supported accommodation across the area north of Birmingham city centre.

# 28 nitazene related deaths in Birmingham UK in 2023, so far confirmed at inquest

(9 of the cases also involved xylazine)

Month of death: 5x June 2024, 17x July-September 3x October 2x Nov 1x December

Ages: 20s x3, 30s x7, 40s x9, 50s x4, 60s x2      5 women 23 men

28 people, all of whom thought they had bought "ordinary" heroin.

Toxicology at time of death	Number of people
N-desethyl isotonitazene	28 people
Metonitazene	1
Heroin	22
cocaine	14
Xylazine	9
Methadone	3

Table by Dr J Yates : Birmingham inquest findings (up to inquests completed by 9/4/2024)



# N-desethyl isotonitazene detected in polydrug users admitted to hospital in Birmingham

19 non-fatal presentations (13 were non-fatal overdoses) and one fatality.

Published online: 14 Feb 2024

## Methods

- This is an observational case series of patients with suspected or declared substance use who were admitted to hospitals in the Sandwell and West Birmingham National Health Service Trust between July and October 2023. All patients were found on toxicological screening to have been exposed to N-desethyl isotonitazene

## Results

Twenty presentations involving **19 patients who tested positive for N-desethyl isotonitazene** were included in the study. In 19 presentations, multiple substances were detected on toxicological screening.

The number of patients testing positive for other substances were:

- 19 for cocaine and its main metabolite benzoylecgonine,
- 13 for morphine, 11 for the heroin-specific metabolite 6-monoacetylmorphine,
- **10 for xylazine,**
- 8 for gabapentinoids (pregabalin and/or gabapentin),
- **7 for methadone** and/or the metabolite, 2-ethylidene-1, 5-dimethyl-3, 3-diphenylpyrrolidine,
- 6 for benzodiazepines and
- **5 for the synthetic cannabinoid MDMB-4en-PINACA.**

Mark Pucci, Gurpreet Singh Jutley, Jonathan Looms & Loretta Ford (2024)

N-desethyl isotonitazene detected in polydrug users admitted to hospital

in Birmingham, United Kingdom, Clinical Toxicology, DOI: [10.1080/15563650.2024.2309321](https://doi.org/10.1080/15563650.2024.2309321)



# WEDINOS Welsh Emerging Drugs and Identification of Novel Substances

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## WELCOME

'Legal highs, club drugs, designer drugs, psychoactives...'  
Drug markets are changing.  
It can be hard to get accurate information and stay safe.  
WEDINOS tests substances to give individual users and others rapid and accurate information to reduce harms.

### COLLECTING, TESTING, INFORMING

- Sample Testing**  
Click here to complete a Substance Sample & Effect Record form.
- Sample Results**  
Find your sample results here and results of other WEDINOS tests..
- Substance Information**  
Click here for more information on a range of substances.

Following a review by the WEDINOS Programme Board, it has been decided that as of 25th July 2014, no further samples of Steroids and/or Image Enhancing drugs (SIEDs) will be tested by WEDINOS. For further information please [click here](#).

#### News

Feb 1st, 2024

**admin@wedinos.org email**  
We have identified some issues with the WEDINOS email system. These currently remain ongoing. We are working to resolve them and appreciate your patience as we do so. If you are working in the media sector and have any media enquiries please direct them to the Public Health Wales Communications Team.

#### Tweets from @WEDINOSProject

**WEDINOS Project** @WE... · Jun 13, 2023

Having observed several conversations relating to xylazine, we have extracted the following information sheets from our upcoming annual report, to provide a little information on the substance; and details of samples submitted to the programme profiled as containing xylazine

**Xylazine**

**WEDINOS and Xylazine**

WEDINOS is a harm reduction project, providing an anonymous service, and



# WELSH EMERGING DRUGS AND IDENTIFICATION OF NOVEL SUBSTANCES

## W024533

Date Received: 07 Mar 2022

Postcode: RG4 -

Purchase Intent: Oxycodone instant release

Package Label: Mallinckrodt M30 pill

Sample Colour: Blue

Sample Form: Tablet

Consumption Method: Array

Self-Reported Effects: Euphoria, Increased Confidence, Visual Hallucinations, Relaxed, Nausea, Loss of consciousness

Sample Upon Analysis (Major): Etonitazepyne

Sample Upon Analysis (Minor):



[Click to Enlarge](#)

WEDINOS have found 155 examples of “nitazenes” in pills and powders since 2021.  
 (54 of these so far in 2024)

Here are the most recent examples:

Table: Dr J Yates. Information from WEDINOS.org

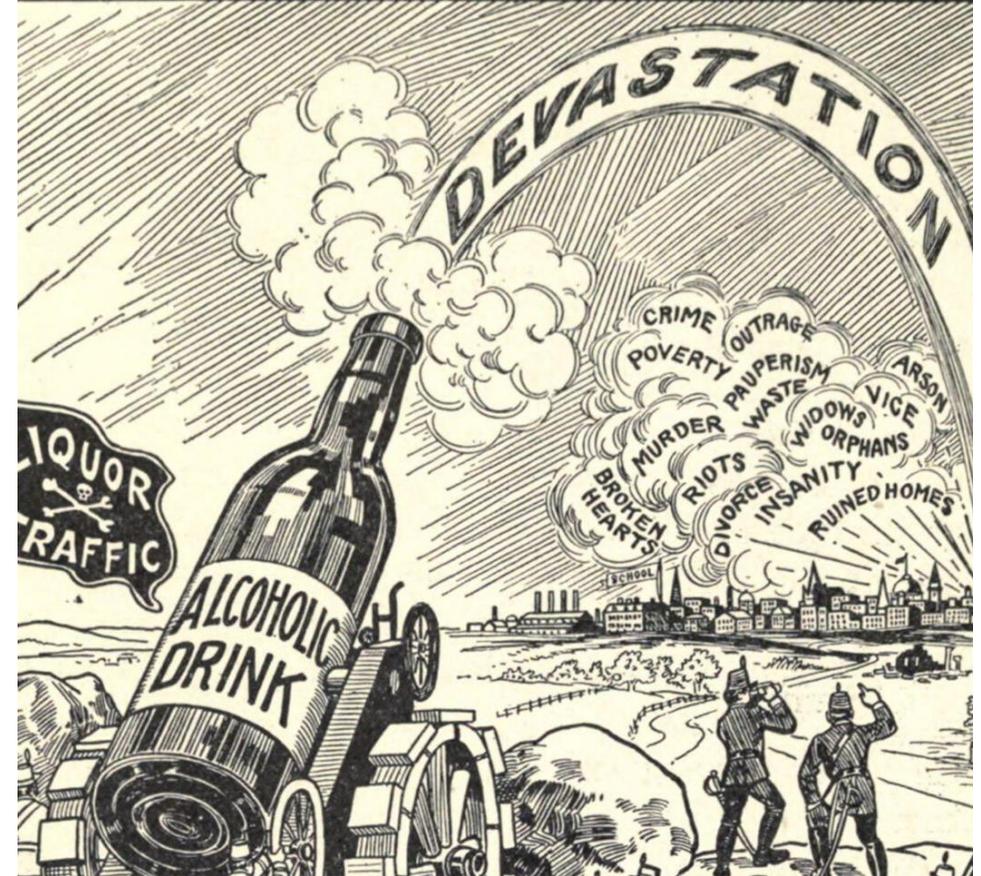
Date	Intended purchase	Ingredients when tested	appearance	Post code	place
10/4/2024	M30 Oxycodone	Metonitazene	Blue pill	NG5	Nottingham
9/4/2024	Accord Diazepam	Bromazolam, Metonitazene	Blue pill	B772	Tamworth
5/4/2024	Valium MSJ	Metonitazene, Bromazolam	Blue pill	SA15	Llanelli
3/4/2024	Accord Diazepam	Metonitazene, Bromazolam	Blue pill	DE11	Swadlincote
2/4/2024	Diazepam MSJ	Mtonitazene, Bromazolam	Blue pill	TS18	Stockton-on-Tees
2/4/2024	Benzo (diazepam)	Bromazolam, Metonitazene	White pill	LL55	Caernarfon
2/4/2024	Diazepam (Accord)	Metonitazene, Bromazolam, MDMA, Cocaine, ketamine	Blue pill	CF23	Cardiff
28/3/2024	Diazepam (Bensedin)	Bromazolam, Metonitazene, Nitrazolam	White pill	BN37	Hove/Brighton
28/3/2024	Diazepam (Accord)	Bromazolam metonitazene ketamine	Blue pill	GL3	Gloucester
26/3/2024	Diazepam	Metonitazene Bromazolam	White pill	CF10	Cardiff
25/3/2024	Heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine, N-desethyl isotonitazene, heroin	Brown powder	WR1	Worcester
25/3/2024	Oxycodone M30	Metonitazene	Blue pill	ST16	Stafford

Nitazenes are a response to prohibition

Synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists (SCRAs, Spice, mamba) are here as response to prohibition.

Xylazine is now seen mixed with heroin as a response to prohibition

Guns and knives are involved in the supply of drugs because of prohibition.



Let's try something different:

*“legalise and regulate the supply of drugs – including cocaine and heroin - to undermine gangsters who are killing thousands every year”*

Lord Charlie Falconer,  
Labour Party Conference side event , 2018.

# “The times they are a-changing” 1967: “The Law against marijuana is immoral in principle and unworkable in practice” .....

Times advert 1967

ADVERTISEMENT

This advertisement is sponsored by SOMA\*

**the law against  
marijuana is  
immoral in  
principle and  
unworkable in  
practice**

The signatories to this petition suggest to the Home Secretary that he implement a five point programme of cannabis law reform:

1. THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD PERMIT AND ENCOURAGE RESEARCH INTO ALL ASPECTS OF CANNABIS USE, INCLUDING ITS MEDICAL APPLICATIONS.
2. ALLOWING THE SMOKING OF CANNABIS ON PRIVATE PREMISES SHOULD NO LONGER CONSTITUTE AN OFFENCE.
3. CANNABIS SHOULD BE TAKEN OFF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS LIST AND CONTROLLED, RATHER THAN PROHIBITED, BY A NEW *AD HOC* INSTRUMENT.
4. POSSESSION OF CANNABIS SHOULD EITHER BE LEGALLY PERMITTED OR AT MOST BE CONSIDERED A MISDEMEANOUR, PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN £5 FOR A FIRST OFFENCE, AND NOT MORE THAN £5 FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE.
5. ALL PERSONS NOW IMPRISONED FOR POSSESSION OF CANNABIS OR FOR ALLOWING CANNABIS TO BE SMOKED ON PRIVATE PREMISES SHOULD HAVE THEIR SENTENCES COMMUTED.

Jonathan Aitken  
Fariq Ali  
David Bailey  
Humphry Berkeley  
Anthony Blond  
Derek Boshier  
Sidney Briskin  
Peter Brook  
Dr. David Cooper  
Dr. Francis Crick,  
F.R.S.  
David Dimbleby  
Tom Driberg, M.P.  
Dr. Ian Dunbar  
Brian Epstein  
Dr. Aaron Esterson  
Peter Fryer  
John Furnival  
Tony Garnett  
Clive Goodwin  
Graham Greene  
Ish  
Richard Hamilton  
George Harrison,  
M.B.E.  
Michael Hastings  
Dr. J. M. Heaton  
David Hockney  
Jeremy Hornsby  
Dr. S. Hutt  
Francis Huxley  
Dr. Brian Inglis  
The Revd. Dr. Victor  
E. S. Kenna, O.B.E.  
George Kiloh  
Herbert Kretzmer

Dr. R. D. Laing  
Dr. Calvin Mark Lee  
John Lennon, M.B.E.  
Dr. D. M. Lewis  
Paul McCartney, M.B.E.  
David McEwen  
Alasdair MacIntyre  
Dr. O. D. Macrae  
Gibson  
Tom Mascher  
Michael Abdul Malik  
George Melly  
Dr. Jonathan Miller  
Adrian Mitchell  
Dr. Ann Mully  
P. H. Nowell-Smith  
Dr. Christopher Pallis  
John Piper  
Patrick Proctor  
John Pudney  
Alexair Reid  
L. Jeffrey Seznick  
Nathan Silver  
Tony Smythe  
Michael Schofield  
Dr. David Stafford-Clark  
Richard Starkey, M.B.E.  
Dr. Anthony Storr  
Kenneth Tynan  
Dr. W. Grey Walter  
Brian Walden, M.P.  
Michael White  
Pat Williams

“All laws which can be violated without doing anyone any injury are laughed at. Nay, so far are they from doing anything to control the desires and passions of man that, on the contrary, they direct and incite men’s thoughts toward those very objects; for we always strive toward what is forbidden; and desire the things we are not allowed to have. And men of leisure are never deficient in the ingenuity needed to enable them to outwit laws framed to regulate things which cannot be entirely forbidden. . . . He who tries to determine everything by law will foment crime rather than lessen it.”—Spinoza

The herb *Cannabis sativa*, known as ‘*Marihuana*’ or ‘*Hashish*’, is prohibited under the Dangerous Drugs Act (1965). The maximum penalty for smoking cannabis is six years’ imprisonment and a fine of £1,000. Yet informed medical opinion supports the view that cannabis is the least harmful of psychoactive drugs, and is, in particular, far less harmful than alcohol. Cannabis is non-addictive, and prosecutions for disorderly behaviour under its influence are unknown.

The use of cannabis is increasing, and the rate of increase is accelerating. Cannabis smoking is widespread in the universities, and the custom has been taken up by writers, teachers, doctors, businessmen, musicians, scientists, and artists. Such persons do not fit the stereotype of the unemployed criminal dope fiend. Smoking the herb also forms a traditional part of the social and religious life of hundreds of thousands of immigrants to Britain.

The main justification for the prohibition of cannabis has been the contention that its use leads to heroin addiction. This contention does not seem to be supported by any documented evidence, and has been specifically refuted by several authoritative studies. It is almost certainly correct to state that the risk to cannabis smokers of becoming heroin addicts is far less than the risk to drinkers of becoming alcoholic.

The present system of controls has strongly discouraged the use of cannabis in medicine. It is arguable that claims which were formerly made for the effectiveness of cannabis in psychiatric treatment might now bear re-examination in the light of modern views on the chemistry of the herb. The possibility of alleviating suffering through the medical use of cannabis preparations should not be dismissed because of prejudice concerning the medical use of drugs. The Government ought to welcome and encourage research into all aspects of cannabis smoking, but to restrict the law as it stands no one is permitted to smoke cannabis under any circumstances, and exceptions should be made for scientific and medical research. It is scandalous that doctors who are entitled to prescribe heroin, cocaine, amphetamines and barbiturates risk being sent to prison for possibly investigating a drug which is known to be less damaging than alcohol or even tobacco.

As a moment of national anxiety. . . . In recent months the persecution of cannabis smokers has been intensified. Much larger fines and an increasing proportion of unreasonable prison sentences suggest that the crime at issue is not so much drug abuse as heresy. . . . The prohibition of cannabis has brought the law into disrepute and has demoralised police officers faced with the necessity of enforcing an unjust law. Uncounted thousands of frightened persons have been arbitrarily classified as criminals and threatened with arrest, victimization and loss of livelihood. Many of them have been exposed to public contempt in the courts, smothered by uniformed magistrates and sent to suffer in prison. They have been hunted down with Albatross dogs or stooped on the street at random and improperly searched. The National Council for Civil Liberties has called attention to instances where drugs have apparently been ‘planted’ on unsuspecting cannabis smokers. Chief Constables have appealed to the public to inform on their neighbours and children. Yet despite these gross impositions and the threat to civil liberties which they pose the police freely admit that they have been unable to prevent the spread of cannabis smoking.

Abuse of opiates, amphetamines and barbiturates has become a serious national problem, but very little can be done about it so long as the resources or the manpower to deal with both cannabis and the more dangerous drugs at the same time. Furthermore prohibition provides a potential breeding ground for many forms of drug abuse and gangsterism. Similar legislation in America in the twenties brought the sale of both alcohol and heroin under the control of an immensely powerful criminal conspiracy which still thrives today. We in Britain must not lose sight of the parallel.

## MEDICAL OPINION

“There are no lasting ill-effects from the acute use of *marihuana* and no families have ever been recorded. . . . The causal relationship between these two events (*marihuana* smoking and heroin addiction) has never been substantiated. In spite of the once heated interchange among members of the medical profession and between the medical profession and law enforcement officers, there seems to be a growing agreement directly among criminal behaviour, juvenile delinquency, sexual excitement and addiction.”

Dr. J. H. Bell, in *The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*, L. Goodman and A. Gilman, Eds., 1970.

“Certain specific myths require objective confrontation since otherwise they recurrently confuse the issue, and incidentally divert the energy and attention of police and control and disciplinary authorities to discussions which have very little to do with facts and much more to do with prejudiced beliefs. The relative innocuousness of *marihuana* by comparison with alcohol is one such fact, its social denial a comparable myth.”

Dr. David Studdard-Clark, Director of Psychological Medicine, Guy’s Hospital, The Times, 22 April, 1967.

“*Marihuana* is not a drug of addiction and is, medically speaking, far less harmful than alcohol or tobacco. . . . It is generally smoked in the company of others and its chief effect seems to be an enhanced appreciation of music and colour together with a feeling of relaxation and peace. A typical experience of being ‘out of one’s mind’ with *marihuana* is common, alcohol, *marihuana* does not lead to aggressive behaviour, nor a debilitated physical effect. . . . Inevitably, more, so far as it is known, any ill-effects are due to heroin addiction.”

Dr. Anthony Stone, *Sunday Times*, 3 February, 1967.

“The available evidence shows that *marihuana* is not a drug of addiction and has no harmful effects. . . . (The problem of *marihuana*) has been created by the law, not by the drug itself.”

Guy’s Hospital Gazette, 17, 1965.

“I think we can now say that *marihuana* does not lead to degeneration, does not do the brain cells, it is not harmful, and does not lead to heroin addiction.”

Dr. J. H. Bell, in *The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*, 25 August, 1966.

“Cannabis is taken for euphoria, reduction of fatigue, and relief of anxiety. . . . (It) is a valuable psychoactive drug, probably more so than alcohol.”

Dr. J. H. Bell, in *The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*, 25 August, 1966.

“Smoking cannabis only occasionally is followed by heroin use, probably in those who would have become heroin addicts as readily without the *marihuana*.”

## Germany

### Kate Connolly in Berlin

Fri 23 Feb 2024 15.43 GMT

Copy link

## Germany legalises possession of cannabis for personal use

Law allows growth of up to three plants for private consumption, holding 50g of cannabis at home, or 25g in public



▶ A protester holds a placard saying ‘not criminal’ at a demonstration calling for the legalisation of cannabis in Germany. Photograph: Lisi Niesner/Reuters

Germany’s parliament has passed a law allowing individuals and voluntary associations to grow and hold limited quantities of cannabis, making it the latest in a small group of countries and jurisdictions to legalise the drug, at least in part.

## Break-in report leads police to cannabis grow

News

Published: 11:00 10/04/2024



Police discovered a cannabis grow after being alerted to a break-in at a house. Officers were called to Manston Mews, Radford, shortly before 5.45am on Tuesday (9 April) when up to six suspects were seen attempting to gain access to a property.

April 2024

Feb 2024

In Germany from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, everybody can grow 3 cannabis plants each.

Meanwhile in the UK.....

## Cannabis farm worth £360,000 uncovered by police in Shifnal three arrested

Police have found a cannabis farm with more than £360,000 of plants seized during the raid.

By **Dominic Robertson** | Published Apr 11 | Last updated Apr 11



April 2024

## Basildon: Officers uncover more than 500 cannabis plants

News

Published: 13:14 08/03/2024



March 2024

## Bury: Cannabis farm was found after police raid along with 'gardener'

16th February

COURT BURY



Part of the cannabis farm on Hampshire Close in Bury (Image: Greater Manchester Police)

By **James Mutch**  
@jmmutch  
Digital Audience and Content Editor

Share 1 Comment

A "considerable and significant" cannabis farm was discovered after a police raid at a house in which a "gardener" was also found.

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## Officers seize 117 plants from cannabis farm following Bury warrant

News

Published: 17:15 06/03/2024



March 2024

# **The story of Afghan heroin 1983-2023**

Be careful what you wish for



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- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales
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## Flow of drugs to UK

**Britain's drugs habit**

[In Depth](#)



Select drug route:

- Cocaine
  Heroin
  Ecstasy/amphetamines
  Cannabis

Routes shown are general indications of the directions of illicit drug flows and are not intended to show exact routes. Source: UNODC

### Afghanistan

Source country

**Main drug:** Opium / heroin

**Also:** Cannabis resin

**"Afghanistan is the world's largest opium producer"\***

**4,200 tons opium production, 2004**

**87% of world opium production, 2004**

**500 tons of potential heroin production, 2004**

**10% of population involved in opium cultivation**

\*UNODC

[Return to introduction](#)

# Prohibition in Afghanistan-rising price of opium: increasing net returns on 1 hectare of opium poppy between August 2022 and December 2023

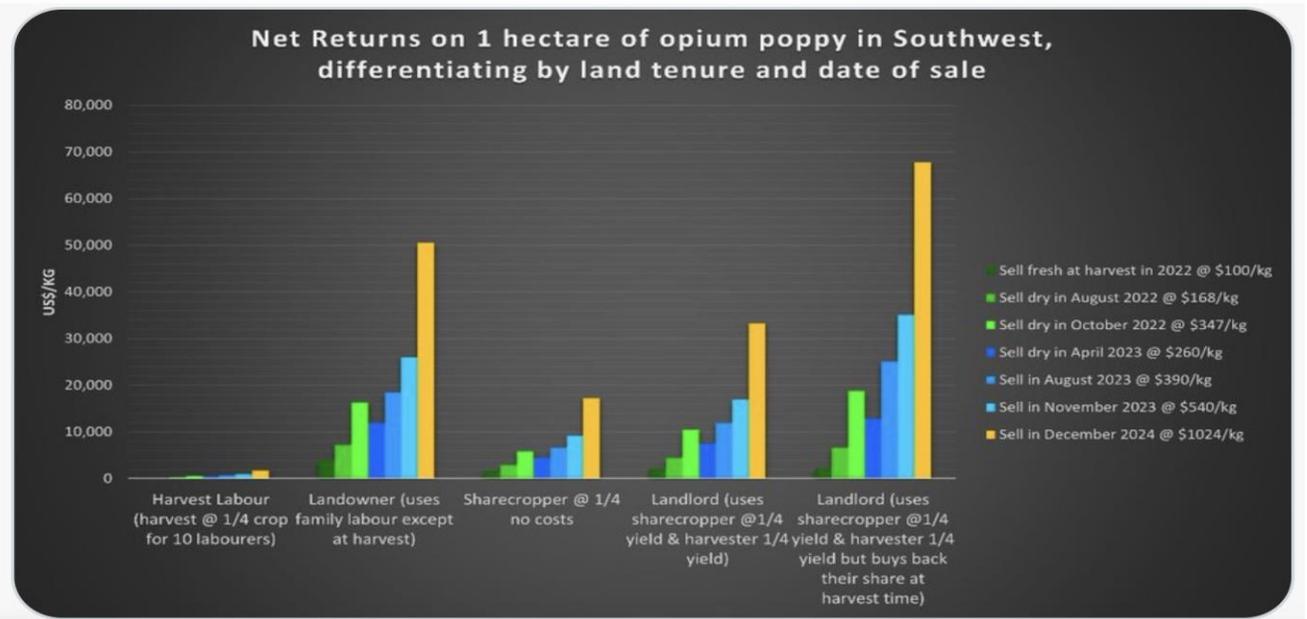


<https://www.alcis.org/blog>

**David Mansfield**

2,597 posts

Following



David Mansfield: “His published work has sought to contextualise drugs as a development issue, and in particular has focused on developing pro-poor approaches to rural livelihoods interventions in illicit drug producing areas.”



**judith yates**  
@judithyates1

Take extra care if you are a person who uses heroin in Streatham, South London. Two samples of heroin sent from there on 13/9 were found by [WEDINOS.org](http://WEDINOS.org) to contain isotonitazene. This caused many deaths and also serious ODs in people who use heroin in Birmingham in July.

65 examples of nitazenes have been found on WEDINOS.org since 2021, mostly sold as oxycodone. It is very worrying to see "isotonitazene" being found in two samples of "heroin" sent from South London as this nitazene was associated with a big spike in overdose, both fatal and non-fatal in Birmingham in July.

date	Intention	Ingredients found		Postcode	place
15/9/2023	Oxycodone	Metonitazene	Green pill	SE15	Peckham, South London
15/9/2023	Oxycodone	Metonitazene	Yellow pill	SE15	Peckham, South London
13/9/2023	Heroin	Paracetamol, <b>Isotonitazene</b> , Caffeine, Heroin, Noscapine	Brown Powder	SW16	Streatham, South London
13/9/2023	Heroin	Paracetamol, Caffeine with <b>Isotonitazene</b> , Noscapine	Brown Powder	SW16	Streatham, South London
23/8/2023	metonitazene	Metonitazene	Green pill	NP16	Chepstow
23/8/2023	Oxy metonitazene	Metonitazene	Yellow pill	NP16	Chepstow
8/8/2023	Diazepam	Metonitazene	Blue pill	BN1	Worthing
26/7/2023	Diazepam	Metonitazene	Blue pill	SA18	South Wales
20/7/2023	Flubromazolam	Metonitazene	Yellow powder	CRO	Croydon

Table: Dr J Yates Data from WEDINOS.org .

# The story of SCRAAs - “Mamba” “Spice”

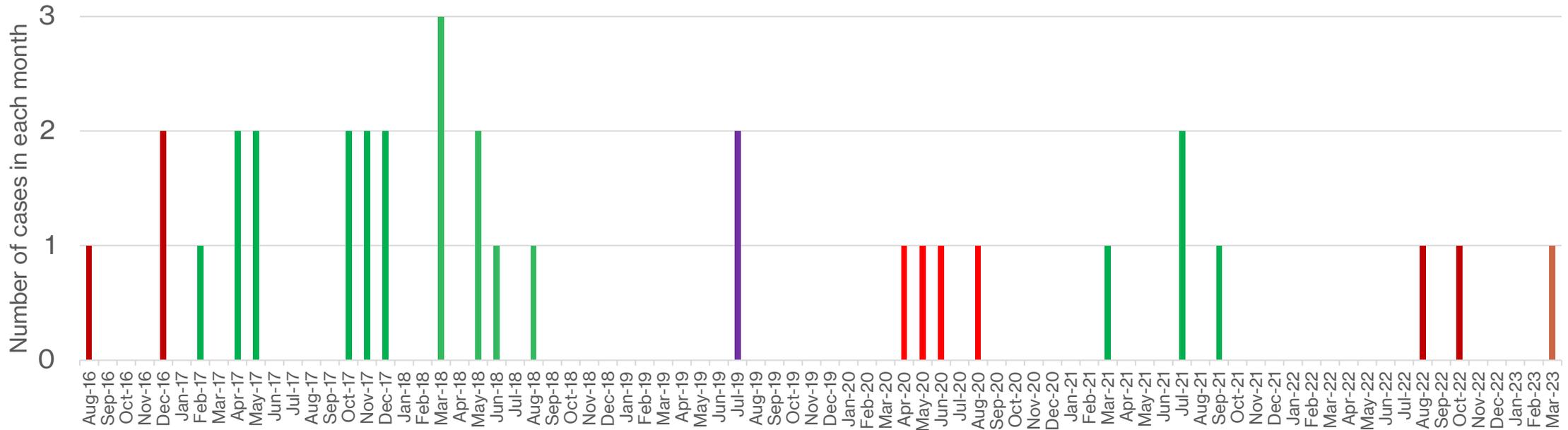
(synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists)

Nothing to do with cannabis

34 (so far) SCRA related deaths in Birmingham since 2016.  
33 men 1 woman (ages 22yrs to 52 yrs) .

## Changing presentation of synthetic cannabinoid related death in Birmingham in 2023

Number of cases where synthetic cannabinoid was found to be part of cause of death in each month:  
Birmingham 2016-2023



# “THC”:

One third of “THC Vapes” tested by WEDINOS in Mar/April/May ‘23 contained only Synthetic cannabinoids:

Date of death Age	Cause of death at inquest		
March 2018 Man aged 41	1a Hypoxic brain damage 1b <b>Synthetic cannabinoid (5F-ADB)</b>	Collapsed on canal side. Died in hospital	Hostel dweller Known to use “Mamba”
March 2023 Man aged 34	1a <b>synthetic cannabinoid (MDMB-4en-PINACA)</b> and cocaine toxicity	Construction worker. Found at Friend’s house	<b>Not a “mamba” smoker.</b> Mis-sold ”THC” vape?

Synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists (SCRAs, Spice, mamba) were invented as a response to prohibition.

**93 “THC” vapes** containing only synthetic cannabinoids (and no THC) found by WEDINOS since January 2023.

(there are earlier less frequent examples back to May 2018)

Table by Dr Yates. Information from WEDINOS website

Date	Purchase Intention	Ingredients found	appearance	Postcode	place
26/3/2024	THC oil	MDMB-4en-PINACA, 5F-ADB, 4F-MDMB-BINACA	Green blue liquid	EH13	Edinburgh
20/3/2024	THC liquid	ADB-BUTINACA	Blue liquid	DY11	Kidderminster
15/3/2024	THC vape liquid	MDMB-4en-PINACA	Yellow liquid	TD15	Berwick-upon-Tweed
15.3.2024	THC oil	MDMB-4en-PINACA, nicotine	Yellow liquid	YO18	Pickering. West of Scarborough
7/3/2024	THC oil	MDMB-4en-PINACA	Yellow liquid	HU7	Kingston upon Hull
7/3/2024	THC	MDMB-4en-PINACA	Yellow liquid	S63	Sheffield
7/3/2024	THC	MDMB-4en-PINACA, nicotine	Green liquid	S63	Sheffield
29/2/2024	THC e-liquid	5F-ADB	Pink, red liquid	L7	Liverpool
20/2/2024	THC liquid	MDMB-4en-PINACA, 5F-ADB	Colourless liquid	EN6	Enfield
13/2/2024	THC vape	5F-ADB, MDMB-4en-PINACA, nicotine	Red liquid	HR1	Hereford

# **The story of Xylazine. Xylazine is not an opioid**

Created in 1962, it is a quick acting animal  
anaesthetic

(which also causes vaso-constriction so slow wound healing.)

# Only x18 xylazine samples found by WEDINOS during whole of 2023

(table Dr J Yates. Information from WEDINOS.org website)

date	Intention	Some of the ingredients found	Appearance	Postcode	Place
12/12/23	Heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, metonitazene, isotonitazene	Brown powder	CF47	“loss of consciousness” Merthyr Tydfil
1/12/23	Street diamorphine	Xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine, metonitazene, isotonitazene, heroin, bromazolam, nitrazolam,	Pink, brown powder	SE26	Lewisham (London)
20/11/23	Heroin	Heroin, xylazine, paracetamol,	Brown powder	EH16	“Loss of consciousness” Edinburgh
27/10/23	Tramadol	Xylazine, paracetamol	White pill	CH5	Near Chester
22/9/23	Heroin	Xylazine, Paracetamol, Caffeine, Heroin, metonitazene, protonitazene, bromazolam, morphine, nitrazolam	Green, brown powder	TD1	Galashiels (South of Edinburgh)
18/9/23	Codeine	Xylazine	White pill	BA13	Westbury (near Bath)
11/9/23	Codeine	Xylazine	White pill	HD1	Huddersfield
23/8/2023	Codeine Phosphate	Xylazine	White pill	B7	Birmingham
10/8/2023	Codeine Phosphate	Xylazine Dipentylone	White pill	KT13	Weybridge
8/8/2023	Codeine	Xylazine	White pill	TN22	Uckfield
18/5/2023	Codeine	Xylazine	White pill	BN23	Eastbourne
18/5/2023	tramadol	Xylazine paracetamol	White pill	BH12	Bournemouth
23/4/2023	Codeine	Xylazine	White pill	BH12	Bournemouth
7/2/2023	Codeine	Xylazine	White pill	UB10	Uxbridge
7/2/2023	Diazepam	Xylazine Bromazolam	Blue pill	NP20	Newport
3/2/2023	Diazepam	Xylazine Bromazolam	Blue pill	NP11	Newport
2/2/2023	Diazepam	Xylazine Bromazolam	Blue pill	CF10	Cardiff

# 17 examples of Xylazine found by WEDINOS in first three months of 2024:

Table Dr J Yates (results posted by WEDINOS.org up to 10/4/2024)

date	Intention	Some of the ingredients found	Appearance	Postcode	Place
25/3/2024	heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine, N-desethyl isotonitazene, heroin	Brown powder	WR1	Worcester
20/3/2024	heroin	Xylazine, heroin, paracetamol, papaverine	Black brown solid	EH32	East of Edinburgh
20/3/2024	heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine, metonitazene, heroin, papaverine	Brown solid	EH32	East of Edinburgh. "Loss of consciousness"
20/3/2024	Heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine, heroin	Brown solid	EH21	East of Edinburgh."Loss of consciousness"
27/2/2024	Heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine, heroin, papaverine	Pink powder	EH8	Edinburgh. "Loss of consciousness"
27/2/2024	Heroin	Heroin, xylazine, noscapine, paracetamol, caffeine	Red /brown powder	TD9	Scottish borders.Around Berwick-upon-Tweed. "Loss of consciousness"
27/2/2024	Heroin	Heroin, xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine	Brown solid	EH41	East of Edinburgh
27/2/2024	Heroin	Heroin, Xylazine, Paracetamol, caffeine	Brown solid	EH41	East of Edinburgh
19/2/2024	Heroin	Heroin, xylazine, caffeine, paracetamol,	Brown solid	EH21	East of Edinburgh
15/2/2024	Heroin	Noscapine, Paracetamol, Metonitazene, xylazine, Heroin, caffeine	Brown powder	EH76	Inaccurate post code? Edinburgh
13/2/2024	Heroin	Heroin, Xylazine, Paracetamol, caffeine	Pink/grey solid	EH39	North Berwick (East of Edinburgh)
13/2/2024	Heroin	Heroin, Xylazine, Paracetamol, Caffeine	Brown powder	EH21	South east of Edinburgh
13/2/2024	Heroin	Xylazine, Paracetamol, Heroin, Caffeine, Thebacon	Grey/brown solid	EH32	East of Edinburgh
18/1/2024	Heroin	Heroin, xylazine, paracetamol, caffeine	Brown powder	EH32	East of Edinburgh
11/1/2024	Heroin	Metonitazene, xylazine, paracetamol, protonitazene, bromazolam, nitrazolam, heroin	Brown granules	CF40	"Loss of consciousness, overdose" Tonypany, (north of Cardiff)
11/1/2024	Heroin	Heroin, paracetamol, caffeine, xylazine	Brown powder	FK8	West of Stirling, Scotland
11/1/2024	Heroin	Xylazine, paracetamol, metonitazene, isotonitazene	Brown powder	CF47	"loss of consciousness" Merthyr Tydfil



**What will happen next?**

# Prohibition: Watch out for A I

axios.com/2023/12/07/fentanyl-trafficking-ai-border-patrol

AXIOS

Sections

Local news

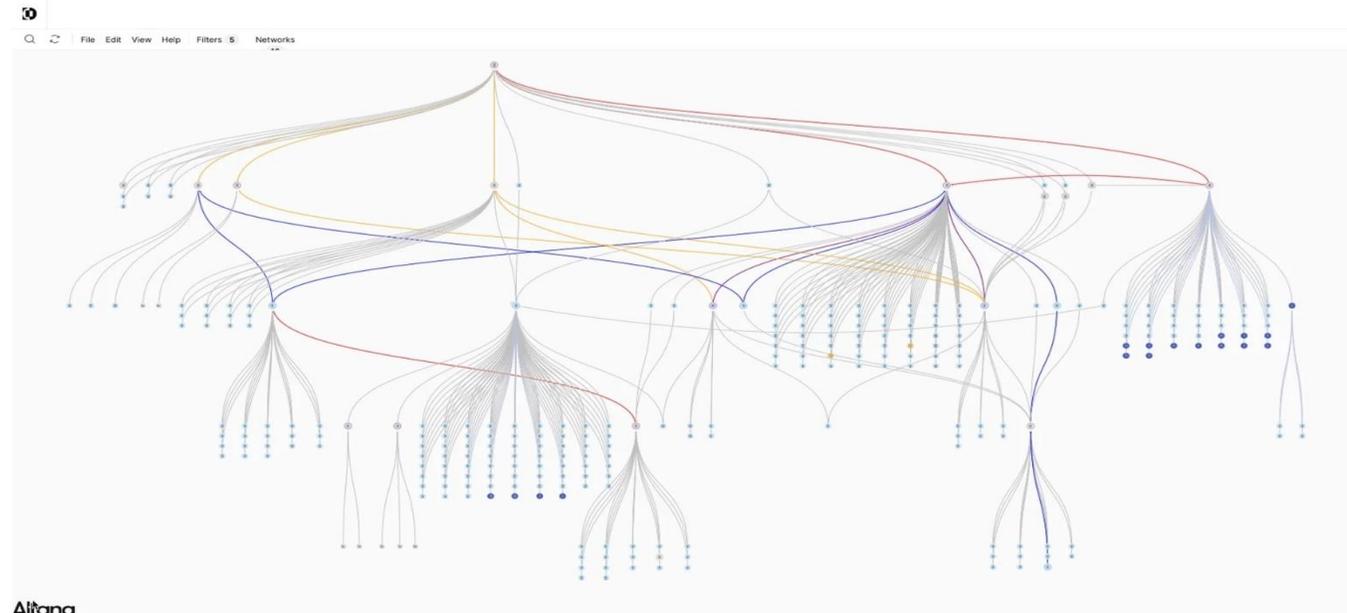
Axios Pro

Events

About Axios

Newsletters

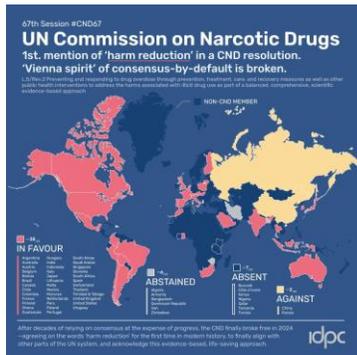
Log In



Altana Atlas images showing the supply chain of a company indicted for trafficking fentanyl precursor chemicals. Image: Altana

The days of drug-sniffing dogs aren't over — but now [Customs and Border Protection Agents](#) (CBP) are using [AI](#) to track down the precursor chemicals used in [fentanyl](#) production in Mexico, to help stop the drug from ever being created.

# Civil Society driving change at the UNODC in Vienna: As a result of increasing overdose deaths in the US and the rise of synthetic opioids, 3 astonishing things happened at the annual United Nations Committee on Narcotic Drugs (CND) session in Vienna ( March 2024)



1) **First mention of “Harm Reduction”** in a Committee on Narcotic Drugs resolution in 20 years

2) **The “Vienna Spirit” of Consensus-by-default was broken.**

The resolution was passed by vote, leading some to hope that more changes may follow

3) **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** spoke in person at the CND for the first time.

Volker Türk said,

*“After decades of following a largely punitive approach, we can see this simply is not working. Not by any metric”,*

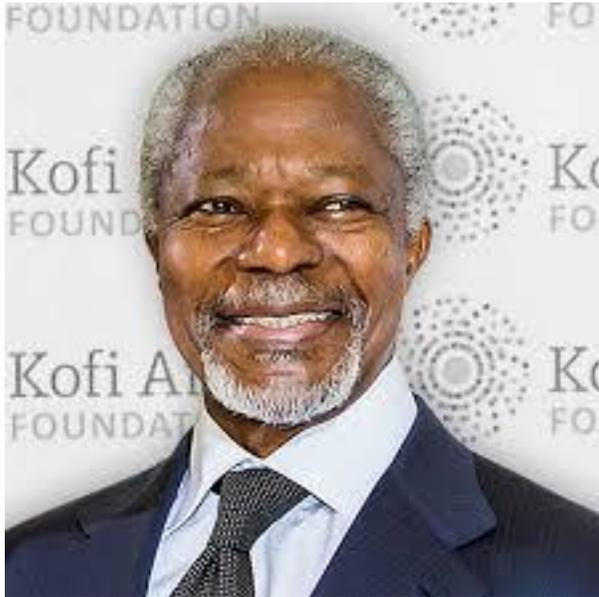


[Volker Türk:](#)  
[United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)



(Historical picture of me taken in Vienna in 2015!)

# Careful legal regulation of all drugs



Kofi Annan “I believe that drugs have destroyed many lives, but wrong government policies have destroyed many more.”

REPORT 2018



## Regulation

The Responsible Control of Drugs



Labour Party Conference:

Former Justice Secretary Lord Falconer calls for UK to legalise drugs

*Lord Falconer said Labour should 'legalise and regulate the supply of drugs' including cocaine and heroin - to undermine gangsters who are killing thousands every year*

By [SIMON WALTERS FOR THE DAILY MAIL](#)

**PUBLISHED:** 00:04, 24 September 2018 | **UPDATED:** 09:06, 24 September 2018

*"I want to apologise for supporting the war on drugs. We can see with shocking clarity that it has been a tragic disaster."*

# TRANSFORM'S 5 MODELS OF REGULATION.



## Doctor.

Medical prescriptions  
– for registered users  
of drugs such as  
injectable heroin



## Specialist Pharmacists.

Sales to registered  
adult users – for drugs  
such as amphetamine,  
powder cocaine and  
MDMA



## Licensed Retailers.

Sales to adult users for  
drugs such as  
cannabis



## Licensed Premises.

Sale and consumption  
for adult users –  
similar to Dutch 'coffee  
shops' – for drugs  
such as cannabis



## Unlicensed Premises.

Sale of lower-risk  
products such as  
caffeinated drinks and  
coca tea

<https://transformdrugs.org/publications/after-the-war-on-drugs-blueprint-for-regulation>



## What will happen in 2024?

We are unlikely to end our War on Drugs this year.

Heroin will become scarce and expensive.

Nitazenes and other new substances will be an increasing threat to two groups:

1. Young people (often teenagers) who buy pills and powders online (especially diazepam, Xanax, oxycodone)
2. Older people (20-70) who normally use heroin

- Drug checking. Toxicology.
- Naloxone (especially if you go out to clubs or pubs)
- “Safe supply” (increase all forms of prescribing: OST including heroin assisted treatment. Also benzos for those who have become dependent)
- “Drug consumption rooms” especially attached to needle syringe programmes, where people who have nowhere safe or hygienic to inject their drugs can come inside and get whatever help they need.

If you are a health care professional, join the new global association of: Doctors for Drug Policy Reform (D4DPR)



Doctors for  
Drug Policy  
Reform

Let's end the "war on drugs" and the war on people who take drugs

**Apply common sense.**

**Stop doing things which don't work, and Stop causing harm**

Thank you  
Dr Judith Yates  
@judithyates1