

Mini-Symposium on Synthetic Opioids & BLT General Assembly – Apr 30th 2024

Program of the mini-symposium:

13:30-13:45 Registration

13:45-14:00 Welcome and introduction (Christophe Stove, Ghent University, Belgium)

14:00-14:30 Mu-opioid receptor pharmacology: lessons learned and challenges ahead (Meritxell Canals, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom)

14:30-15:00 New synthetic opioids in Europe: situation and responses (Michael Evans-Brown, EMCDDA, Portugal)

15:00-15:30 Activity-based characterization, prioritization, and detection of new synthetic opioids (Marthe Vandeputte, Ghent University, Belgium)

15:30-16:00 *Break*

16:00-16:30 Cardiovascular and reinforcing effects of fentanyl analogs found in clandestine drug markets (Mike Baumann, National Institute on Drug Abuse, Baltimore, United States)

16:30-17:00 Cardiorespiratory effects of novel synthetic opioids (Matteo Marti, University of Ferrara, Italy)

17:00-17:30 A lipid nanoparticle fentanyl vaccine (Bruno De Geest, Ghent University, Belgium)

17:30-18:00 *Open discussion*

Presenters at the General Assembly:

- Update on NPS and the Belgian drug market by the BEWSD – results from the latest data collection (Maarten Degreef, Sciensano, Belgium)
- Impact in Belgium of the opium production ban in Afghanistan: results of a foresight exercise with scenario development (Bert Hauspie & Shona Cosgrove, Sciensano, Belgium)
- Detection and characterization of *N*-desethyl etonitazene in a powder sample from a Swiss drug checking service (Liam De Vrieze, Ghent University, Belgium)
- Semi-synthetic cannabinoids: prevalence in Belgium and their detection in oral fluid (Ashley Haeck, NICC, Belgium)
- Hemp-derived or semisynthetic cannabinoids: pharmacology of isomers and how it matters for the harm potential of seized drugs (Liesl Janssens, Ghent University, Belgium)
- Another new addition to the SCRA landscape: *in vitro* characterization of the functional activity and -metabolites of CHO-4'Me-5'Br-FUBOXPYRA (Marie Deventer, Ghent University, Belgium)
- Identification of synthetic antioxidants and insights into their metabolism (Maarten Roggeman, University of Antwerp, Belgium)