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UNODC Integrated Strategy on the Global Opioids Crisis

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Chief, Laboratory & Scientific Section

*CND Special Event
Launch of the UNODC Strategic Response to the Opioids Crisis
25 June 2018 | Vienna, Austria*

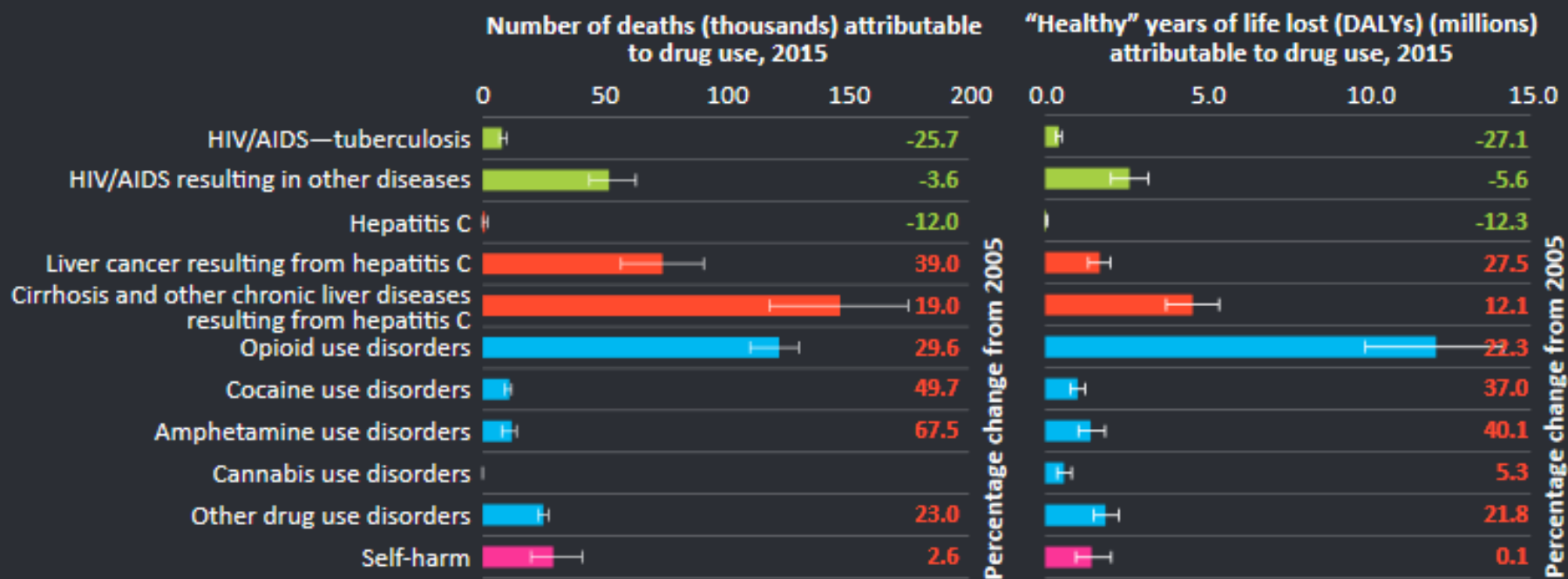


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Global Burden of Disease

Number of deaths and "healthy" years of life lost (DALYs) attributable to drug use, 2015



Source: "Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 79 behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of risks, 1990-2015: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015".

Notes: Error bars represent uncertainty intervals. Numbers given in charts are percentage changes from 2005.



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The Opioid Crisis



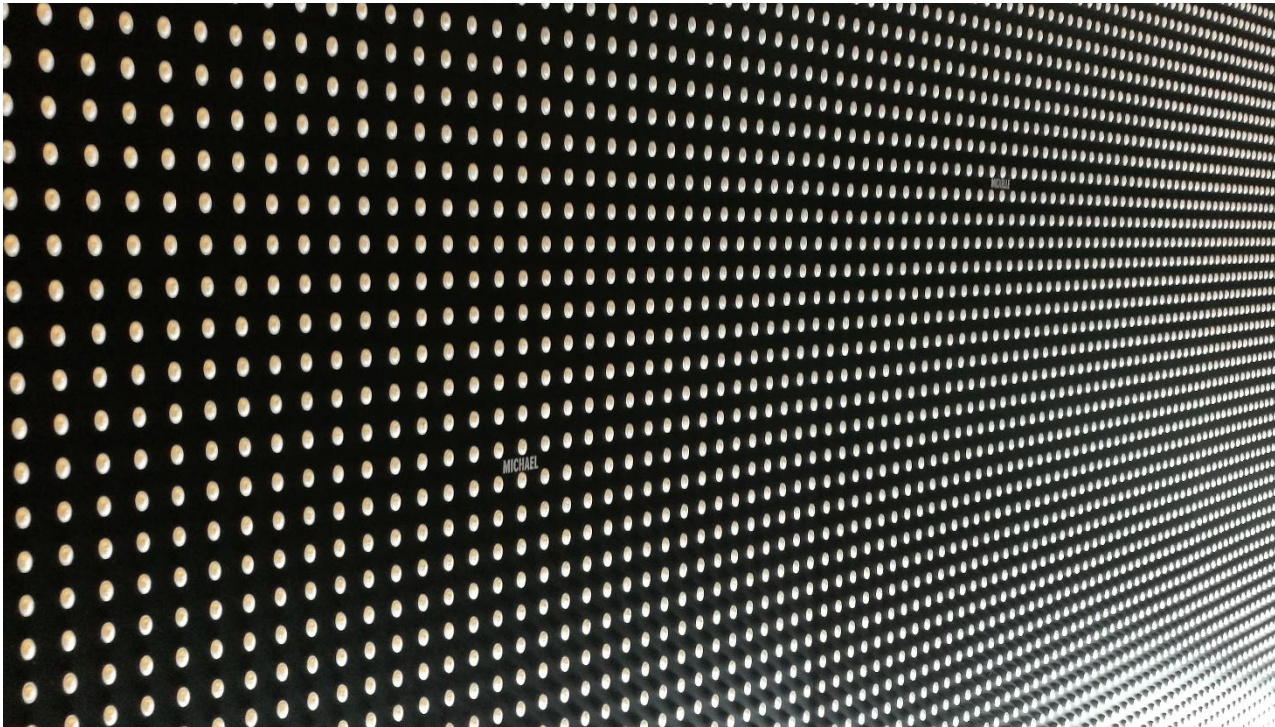
Rx Conference, Atlanta, USA February 2018



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The Opioid Crisis



Rx Conference, Atlanta, USA February 2018



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Regional Diversity of the Synthetic Opioids Issue

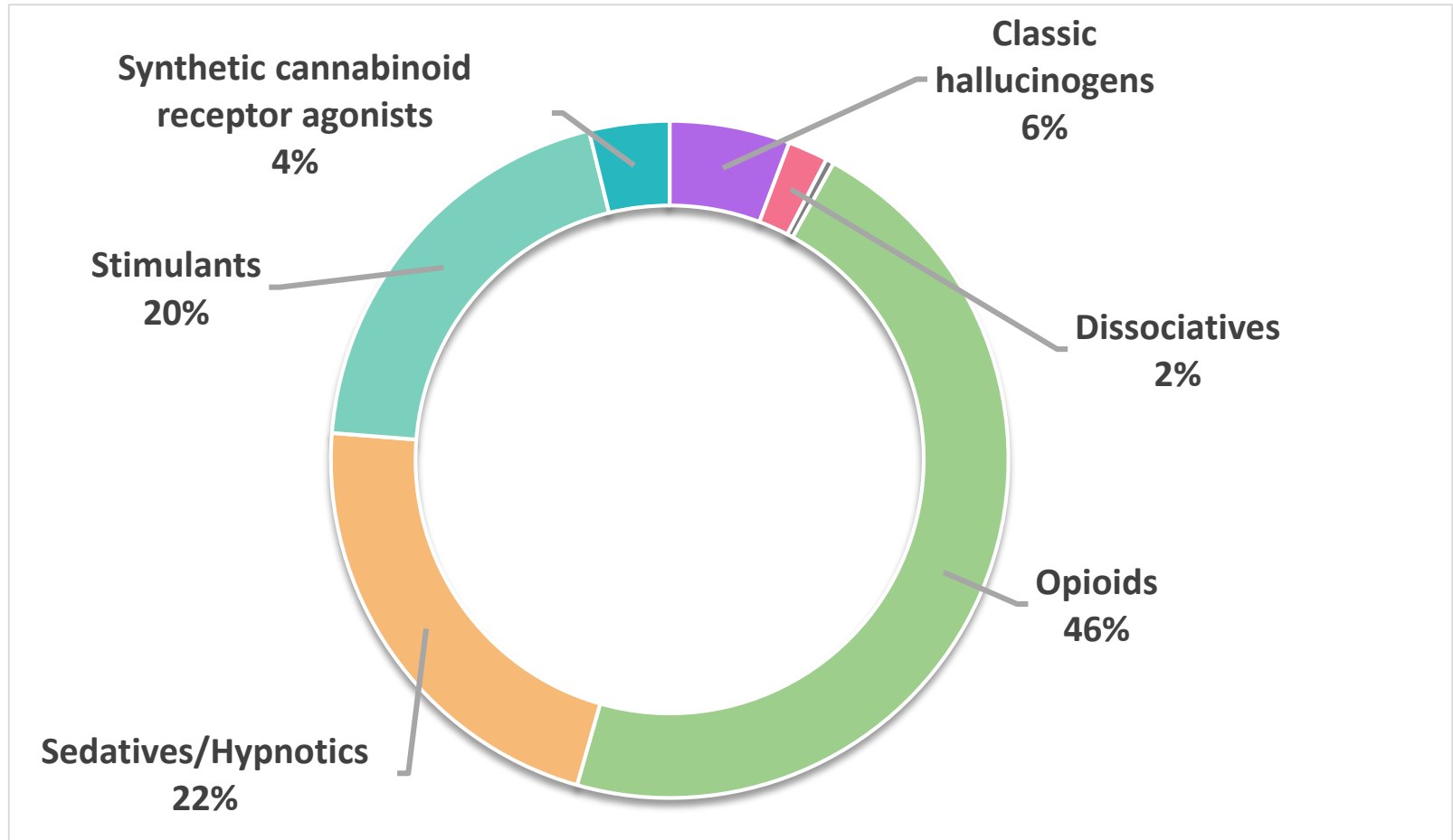
- **Issue not limited to North America**
- **Fentanyl and fentanyl analogues**
 - Eastern, Western and Central Europe
- **Tramadol**
 - West and North Africa
 - Western and Central Europe
 - Near and Middle East



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Substances under international control



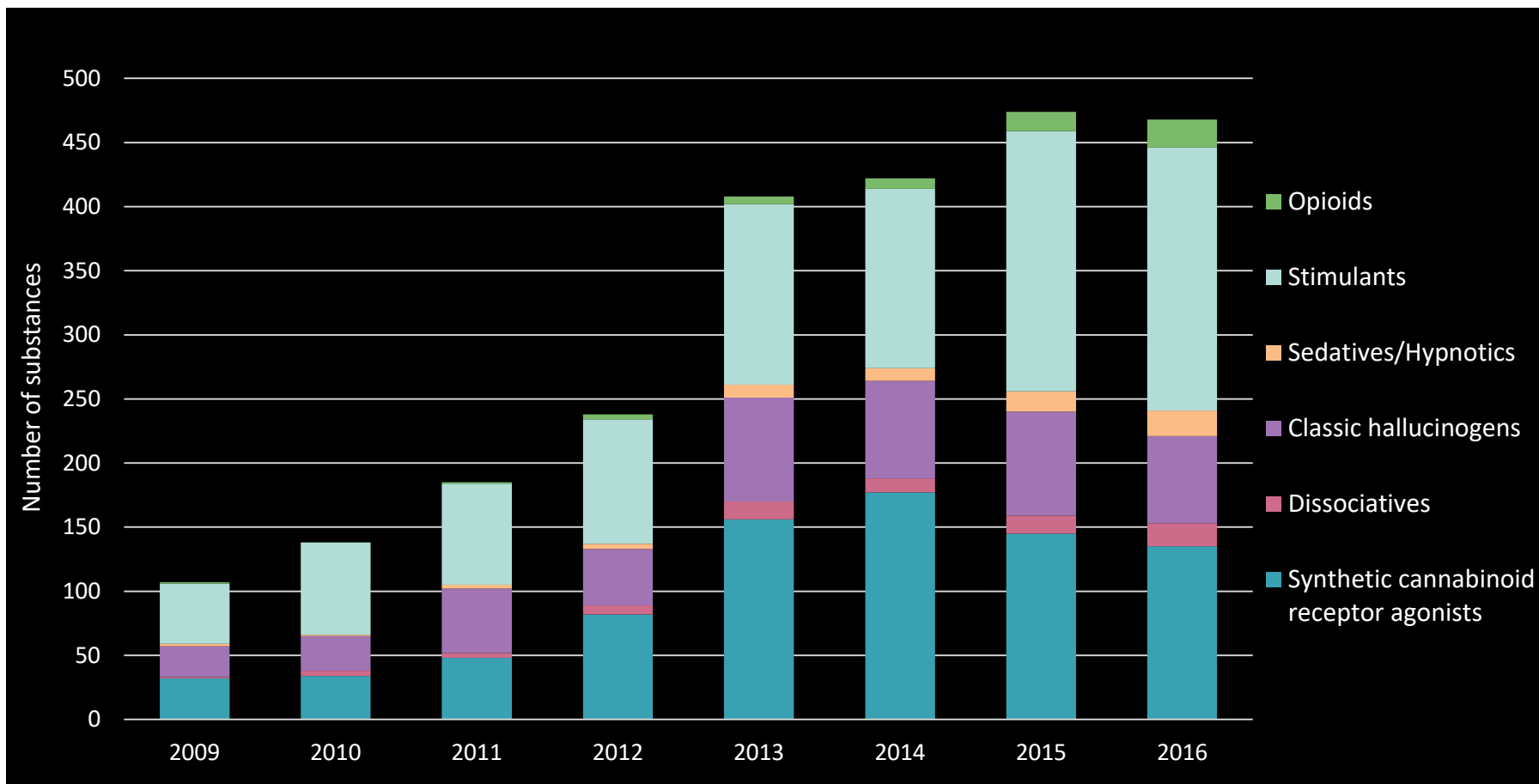
Substances scheduled under the 1961 & 1971 Drug Conventions (n = 261)



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Pharmacological Profile of NPS 2009–2016



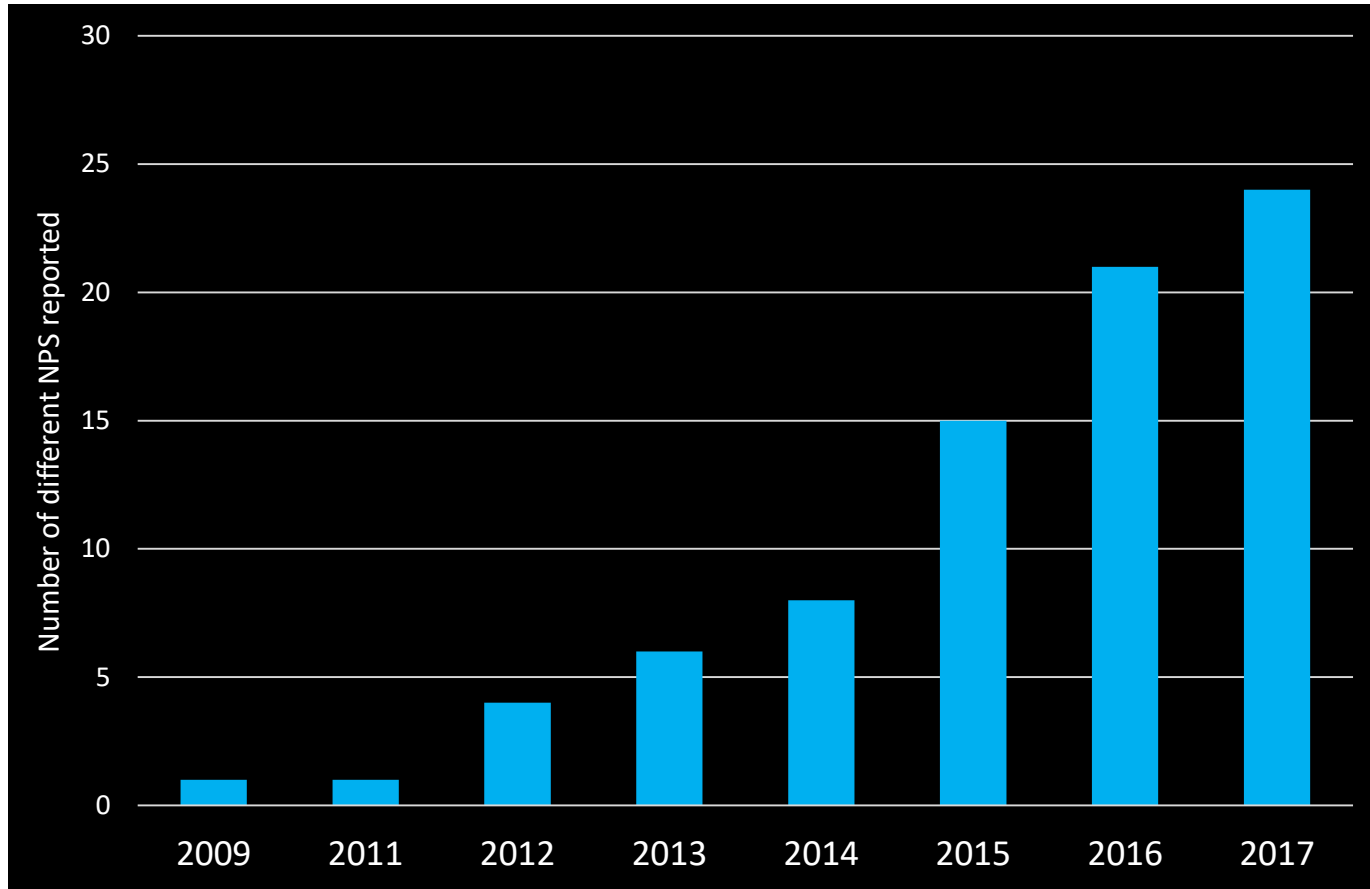
Source: UNODC Early Warning Advisory (EWA) on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)



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Emergence of Synthetic Opioids 2009-2017



Source: UNODC Early Warning Advisory (EWA) on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)



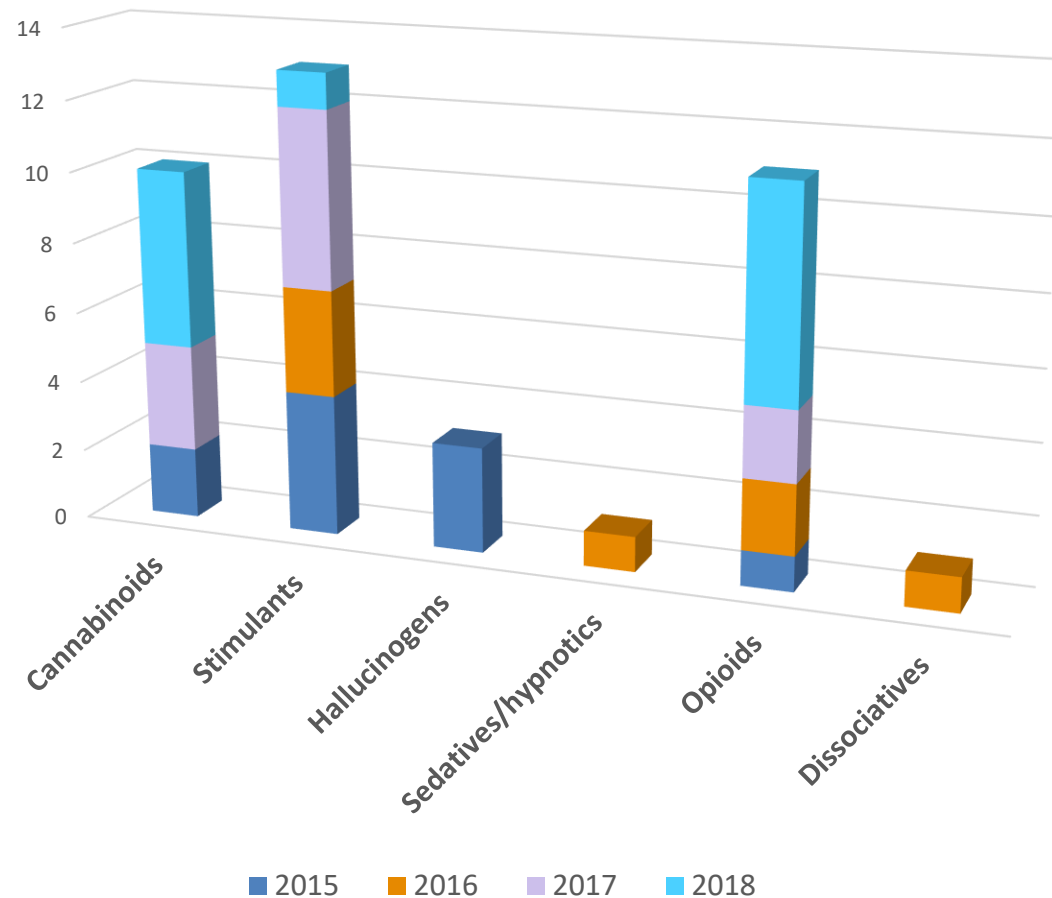
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Responding under the international framework

Protecting
public
health

Promoting
access for
medical and
scientific use

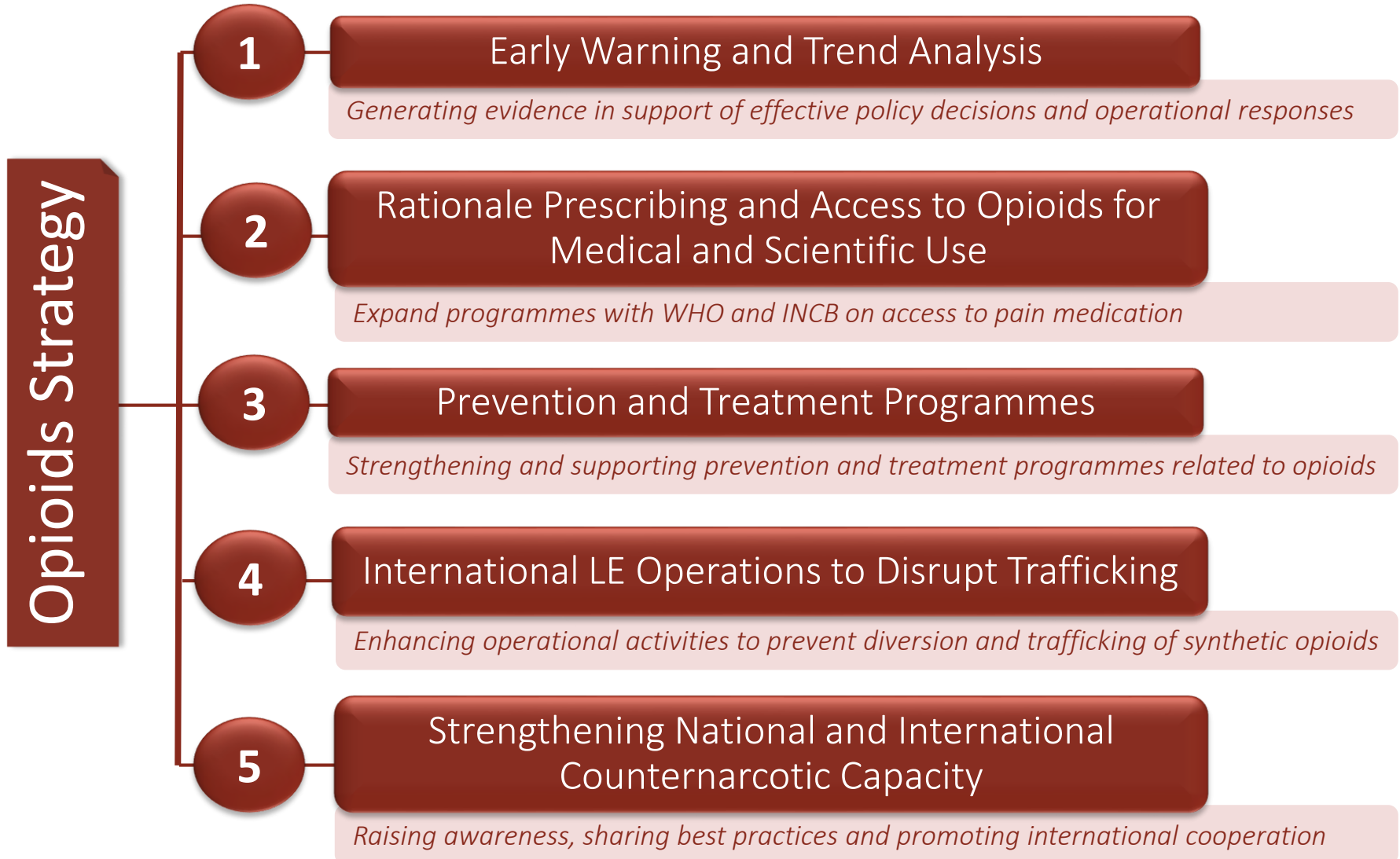




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UNODC's Integrated and Multidisciplinary Approach





Topics

- Alternative development
- Corruption
- Crime prevention and criminal justice
- Cybercrime
- Drug prevention, treatment and care
- Drug trafficking
- Firearms
- Fraudulent medicines
- HIV and AIDS
- Human trafficking and migrant smuggling
- Money-laundering
- Organized crime
- Maritime crime and piracy
- Terrorism prevention
- Wildlife and forest crime

Resources

- Campaigns
- Commissions
- Crime Congress
- Research
- Data & indicators
- eLearning
- Evaluation
- Laboratory and forensic science services
- Legal tools
- Treaties
- International Cooperation
- Gender
- Urban Safety and Good Governance



The potentially deadly consequences of the non-medical use of opioids have been known since science discovered their huge medical potential. Over the past 150 years, humanity has experienced several opioid crises but none as devastating as the present one affecting mainly North America with fentanyl and its analogues, and in parts of Africa and the Middle East with tramadol. Under the conditions of a globalized drug market, the risk that it may spread to more regions is significant.

Protecting health, saving lives

UNODC is the United Nations Secretariat on Narcotics and Crime, supporting member States in their efforts against drugs and crime. Together, ongoing programmes in the areas of synthetic drugs monitoring, early warning and trend analysis, national forensic and counternarcotic capacity building, law enforcement operational work, and prevention and treatment provide a unique platform for contributing to the reduction of the non-medical use of synthetic opioids.

THE STRATEGY

Our strategy unites ongoing UNODC programmes for a timely and comprehensive organization-wide response to the opioid crisis. It does so through a unique set of coordinated activities and resources based on five pillars. [more](#)

CONTACT US

We appreciate your interest in our Programme, please do not hesitate to contact us directly if you should have any questions or enquiries. [more](#)

Thank you



UNODC - Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism

Contact: lab@unodc.org