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NARK® NEWS



A Digital Newsletter for the Narcotics Investigator

Flakka? - Gravel? - a-PVP

As time goes on, we are constantly hearing of many new substances hitting the streets. When we take a closer look, we realize they are the same substances we've been dealing with all along but offered under a different name. This is the case for the latest deadly synthetic called "Flakka".

When synthetic cathinones (bath salts) first came on the scene a few years ago, we saw two of these formulations (MDPV and Mephedrone) added to the Federal Schedule through the introduction of the 2012 Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act (July 2012). A third formulation, Methylone, was placed on the DEA Emergency Schedule on April 12, 2013. However, of twenty-seven total synthetic cathinone formulations known, only three had been scheduled as of 2013.

On March 7, 2014, DEA placed an additional ten synthetic cathinone formulations on Emergency Schedule:

4-MEC	4-Methyl-N-Methylcathinone	3-FMC	3-Fluoro-N-Methylcathinone
4-MePPP	4-Methyl-Alpha-pyrrolidinopropiophenone	a-PBP	Alpha-Pyrrolidinobutiophenone
a-PVP	Alpha-Pyrrolidinopentiophenone	Butylone	
Naphyrone		Pentylone	
4-FMC	4-Fluoro-N-Methylcathinone	Pentredone	

However, just because the substances were placed on the DEA Schedule, it doesn't mean they were first seen in 2014. In fact, New England and especially Maine saw a tremendous amount of the synthetic cathinone a-PVP dating back as early as 2012. Similar patterns emerged for all synthetic formulations. As the formulations became popular, the distributors of the substances simply changed the incoming formulations to avoid prosecution.

As for a-PVP, we saw very little of this formulation until early in 2014. Areas of Florida, Tennessee, Arizona and Colorado started seeing a brand new substance called "gravel". When crime labs analyzed the substance, they determined gravel was simply the synthetic cathinone formulation of a-PVP mixed with ammonium nitrate and rat poison. This mixture would be seen as a white gravel type substance. Consumers would grind these gravel pellets into powder and either smoke or snort the substance for their high. Gravel was extremely dangerous and caused a number of overdoses and some deaths across the country.

Gravel disappeared from the scene by late 2014 and we started to see another new synthetic cathinone called "Flakka". When crime labs conducted tests on this newest substance, it was identified again as the synthetic cathinone formulation of a-PVP.

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“Gravel”



“Flakka” crystals

Fortunately for law enforcement, the a-PVP substance can be presumptively field tested by using the #NARK20026 A-PVP Reagent. The chemistry in all Sirchie NARK tests including NARK20026 adheres to the National Institute of Justice Color Standard for field testing to confirm probable cause.

When testing the substance, be careful to use small quantities and always use nitrile gloves (#SF0078). After breakage and agitation of the left ampoule, a Blue color will adhere to the small particles of substances in a Pink solution. If positive, break the 2nd ampoule, agitate and you will see a flash Blue followed by the development of a Pink solution. The last step will be to break the 3rd ampoule, agitate the pouch and watch closely. You should observe a flash Blue throughout the pouch, then when you tap it along the long side on a hard surface (drive the glass shards to one side to help clear the field), gently roll the pouch in the opposite direction and observe the Pink layer slowly forming over the Blue solution. You must have a positive reaction in all three ampoules to have a positive field test.

Many jurisdictions across the country have requested specific instruction sheets for not only the a-PVP Reagent but all of the field tests. We refer to these sheets as protocol sheets. Contact us at (800) 356-7311 or sales@sirchie.com if you would like to obtain copies of the protocol sheet for the a-PVP reagent.

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THC Concentrates: DAB, Wax, BHO *- What Are They and How Do I Test Them?*

Recently I've been queried more and more about new higher concentrations of THC. How did they achieve such high levels and how can we field test? The answers are easier than they first appear. Let's deal with where they come from to get started.

Dating back over ten years ago, I was training in California when a sheriff's office shared a "new" substance they were seeing called "Honey Oil". This was a concentrated THC product marijuana growers were manufacturing from the remnants of marijuana plants. After a mature plant had grown and the buds were picked, dried and groomed, growers were accustomed to throwing away the balance of the plant. These growers realized if they took all of these remnants (stocks, stems, leaves and trimmings) and ground them to a fine mulch, they could place this mulch in a 12" to 16" PVC pipe. They would then duct tape a white t-shirt to one end and shoot butane into the open end. The butane gas soaked the mulch and created sufficient pressure within the tube to create a dark brown or "honey oil" that would drip out of the tube through the t-shirt. This "honey oil" was the first THC concentrate we saw and had THC levels of 80% or more.



Honey Oil became increasingly prevalent around the country as people realized they could utilize the entire marijuana plant rather than only the dried buds.

However, there was an extreme danger to this manufacturing process. As the butane was being shot into the tube, some of the gas would collect around the floor level (when manufacturing indoors). If a flame was struck while the butane was present, fires and explosions would follow.

This practice of manufacturing Honey Oil continued until about 2012 when the states of Colorado and Washington legalized marijuana. This introduced a movement to come up with a safe way of producing higher concentrations of THC. Colorado has seen Dabfests where manufacturers have come together to see who could achieve the highest levels of THC. Seattle had the "Cannabis Cup" scheduled for 2015 but were forced to cancel when they couldn't secure a location to hold the competition.

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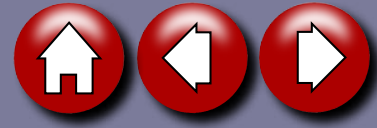
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These high concentrations have taken on the popular names of DAB, Wax, BHO, Sugar, Shatter or Crumble. There levels are all over 80% with some approaching 95% THC purity. To eliminate the cruder manufacturing methods of a PVC tube, opportunists have introduced the Terppeners.



Terpp Extractors offer two models (MK-III – left image; MK-IV – right image) which will process up to 2 lbs (MK-III) and 5 lbs (MK-IV) at a time. They eliminate the dangerous open gases and offer excellent high yields of THC concentrate.

Even though we're using all of the street names for these concentrates, these new forms are all basically BHO (butane hash oil). Some of the other terms associated with the substance either describe the actual BHO product more specifically or refer to a process of using the BHO.

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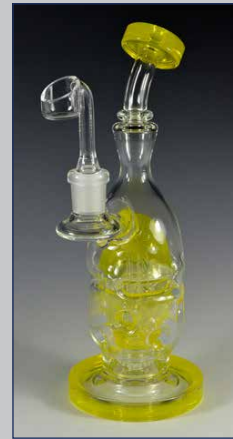


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DAB is a term associated with the act of dabbing. The consumer takes a small amount of BHO on a “nail” (most commonly a titanium probe designed to hold the BHO to the heat source). They then smoke the DAB through a bong type device.



We then see three versions of BHO; “shatter”; “wax” (“crumble”); and “sugar”.



Shatter: a sticky sap of hard resin in a dark brown to translucent color (left image above)

Wax: also referred to as crumble – completely dry and crumbly sometimes referred to as “honeycomb” and dried at higher temperatures (middle image above)

Sugar: describes “shatter” that resembles wet sand but not dried out (right image above)

We have the various forms of concentrates above, all of which are over 80% purity. In addition, there are other forms of concentrates. Officers across the country are seeing an increasing number of everyday type substances with these same concentrates cooked or soaked into them. It’s not unusual today to see lollipops, ice cream, pretzels, granola bites, hard candies or even breakfast pastries having these high concentrations of THC.

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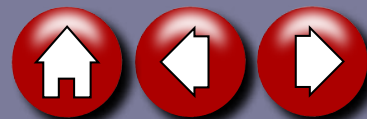
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Field testing these concentrates is very simple. The common characteristics of all of these substances is THC. Regardless of the form the THC takes (marijuana, hashish, hash oil, DAB, Wax or BHO), we are still looking to identify THC. When testing these concentrates, keep in mind the purity levels are generally exceeding 80%. When testing standard marijuana (even today's better strains) we're generally testing THC levels of 20-25%. Standard marijuana requires no more than the equivalency to three small strands of tobacco. These higher concentrates require the equivalency of only one half a small strand of tobacco. If you have the various candies or food products, reduce the hard candies into a small amount of powder. In the case of softer food items, place a small amount (1/8" square) directly in the field test and proceed through normal testing procedures. In the case of possible liquids, touch the tip of a sterile swab to the liquid, air dry for 30 seconds and place directly in the field test. The less material used the better. As with standard marijuana, we recommend the use of the #NARK2005 Duquenois-Levine Reagent.

If your agency has been using the protocol sheets to submit cases for the #NARK2005 Duquenois-Levine Reagent, we have updated the forms to include these concentrates in the description portion of the instructions. To download this newest form, go to: https://www.sirchie.com/media/resourcecenter/item/p/r/protocol_nark2005_duquenois-levine.pdf

These high concentration THC products raise the following questions. Should persons using these concentrates be subject to the same penalties as persons using standard levels of THC? Should our legislators be looking at modifying the statutes to designate the use of THC under 30% being subject to current laws and all THC use over 30% being subject to new penalties?

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Cannabinoids: THC vs CBD – Recreational or Medicinal?

Law enforcement has long been familiar with THC coming in the forms of Marijuana, Hashish and Hash Oil. As we discussed, more recently we've seen the development of first Honey Oil (concentrated THC) and then development of various BHO (butane hash oil) concentrates. These have taken on popular names like DAB, Wax, BHO, Crumble, Sugar and Shatter. Regardless of what you call it and which of these forms you see it in, the substance is still THC. Regardless of how these substances are presented by consumers, they are all psychoactive substances designed for recreational use.

Years ago we saw the emergence of medical marijuana in California. Persons would receive a "medical marijuana card" from their doctor, purchase marijuana at a store and go home to smoke dope. It was suggested this psychoactive product actually gave these individuals relief from some perceived ailments. I questioned the validity of medical marijuana then and I question it even more today.

We have always known there are a number of different cannabinoids and the psychoactive one we are most familiar with is THC. This specific form is identified in the presumptive field test of Duquenois Levine Reagent (#NARK2005 – pouch; #NAR10008 – tube).

There are a total of over 60 compounds found in cannabis and two of the most common, with the highest concentrations are THC and Cannabidiol (CBD). The CBD product does not contain any psychoactive properties. Growers can use selective breeding techniques to create high levels of CBD and virtually eliminate the psychoactive cannabinoid of THC. It has been stated in studies that CBD is safe and can be tolerated even at high dosages. Most of these studies have been conducted on animals, but the results show medical use for:

- Antiemetic:** reduces nausea and vomiting
- Anticonvulsant:** suppresses seizure activity
- Antipsychotic:** combats psychosis disorders
- Anti-inflammatory:** combats inflammatory disorders
- Anti-oxidant:** combats neurodegenerative disorders
- Anti-tumoral/Anti-cancer:** combats tumor and cancer cells
- Anxiolytic/Anti-depressant:** combats anxiety and depression disorders

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G. W. Pharmaceuticals manufacturers a cannabis-based drug called Sativex[®] that has been approved in many countries for the treatment of multiple sclerosis.

As a special note, we have conducted testing for CBD within the #NARK2005 Duquenois-Levine Reagent. This specific formulation is designed to identify cannabinoids and not just the specific cannabinoid of THC. Our testing shows CBD will test positive in this specific chemistry.

There are states looking at approving CBD for medical purposes. If medical research continues to show the excellent results for CBD, then possibly legislators will designate the differences in recreational vs medicinal cannabinoids. Individuals taking the non-psychoactive CBD would not be subject to prosecution, but recreational users would be admitting what many of us have thought all along; they just want to get high.

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Reliability of Presumptive Field Tests

The question concerning the reliability of presumptive field tests is a high concern for both law enforcement agencies and prosecutors. In addition, defense attorneys and the press have made the chemistry and procedures of field tests a prominent target for questioning.

Having been involved in this specific area of law enforcement since 1979, I have seen many changes in the controlled substances we see on the streets up to and including the explosion of synthetic substances over the past number of years. The one constant throughout this period has been the scientifically tested and accepted chemistry that National Institute of Justice (NIJ #0604.01) compliant manufacturers use in providing law enforcement with field tests to presumptively identify controlled substances in support of their probable cause. Compliant manufacturers must certify that their test kits are formulated, assembled, labeled and inspected in strict adherence with the appropriate sections set forth in the NIJ STD #0604.01 (National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Standard #0604.01 Color Test Reagents/Kits for Preliminary Identification of Drugs of Abuse).

While the NIJ standard does an excellent job of guiding this industry, Sirchie has gone to further lengths to ensure their presumptive field tests meet the NIJ standard. The Commonwealth of Virginia has a state policy that Virginia law enforcement agencies can only use field tests that have been tested by the Division of Forensic Science (VA DFS). As a manufacturer, Sirchie is required to submit each specific test to VA DFS for testing and subsequent publication in the Virginia Registry. This Registry shows Virginia law enforcement that a specific field test has been approved to test for the specific substance listed on the front of the pouch and on the box instructions.

However, this does not answer the question of why do some media forms and defense attorneys still question the reliability of the chemistry? The very simple answer is they fail to recognize and understand that law enforcement does not use these presumptive field tests to confirm the identification of a controlled substance, but instead to support their reasonable belief (probable cause) that the unknown substance they are testing reacts in accordance with known controlled substances.

This expression of "confirmation of probable cause" is the key for all law enforcement when using presumptive field tests. Their probable cause consists of: what does the substance look like, how is it packaged, what is the texture of the substance, was it offered as a specific substance, and was the price of the substance consistent with the substance you believe it to be. This is the same with controlled substances. If a specific substance meets a standard of probable cause, then an officer

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will use a specific discriminatory chemistry test to “confirm” their probable cause. All training and protocol sheets should regularly remind officers that the field test is merely the “ribbon of their package.”

The chemistry formulations, potential false positives, and misinterpretation of colors are common areas that have been attacked. The chemistry formulas used in the manufacture of Sirchie NARK presumptive test kits are specified within the NIJ standard, are time-tested in acceptable chemistry, and are recognized throughout the scientific community. To assist Officers in eliminating false positives and proper interpretation of the color reactions, at no charge Sirchie provides Instructor training in the correct use, color interpretation and handling of the presumptive field tests.

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Training Tips & Considerations on Popular Tests

This section addresses considerations to help officers understand the presumptive methods and chemistry in some of our most popular tests.

We have discussed the #NARK2005 Duquenois-Levine Reagent (THC) test in other articles. The 1st ampoule of this test is chemistry that is designed to extract the THC from the substance prior to the color reactions of the 2nd and 3rd ampoules. THC has no color. Proper technique requires the 1st ampoule chemistry to be agitated with the suspect substance for 60 seconds. This time frame is important because substances that may be offered as THC (exotic teas, coffees, or spices) will color react to a green, brown, or black substance when agitated for that period of time. THC will stay clear. Sirchie trains officers in this technique during our instructor training sessions.

Another popular test is #NARK20015 Sodium Nitroprusside Reagent (Methamphetamine/MDMA). The chemistry formula for this test is very specific to secondary amines. When either methamphetamine or MDMA are placed in this specific test, they will color react IMMEDIATELY (within 2 seconds of the breakage of the last ampoule). The color must develop a Dark Purple (we describe it as Minnesota Viking Purple) or Dark Blue (we describe it as Michigan Wolverine Blue). If no secondary amines are present, upon the breakage and agitation of the last ampoule in this test, you will develop an initial Pink color that slowly transitions to Lavender. This transition may take from 5 to 30 seconds. In these cases, at no time does the color approach the Dark Purple or Dark Blue color required. While it is true that you do receive a specific color (Pink to Lavender), you are not receiving the correct specific color (Dark Purple or Dark Blue).

A third example involves our #NARK2007 Scott Reagent Modified test (Cocaine Salts, Cocaine Base). Sirchie trains to help officers distinguish between Cocaine HCl (powder) and Cocaine Base (crack). The question is often asked during our training sessions, "Why is that important? The charge and sentencing in our state is the same for powder and crack." While this is true, we stress the importance of supporting your probable cause. If the substance you have seized is a powder and a number of the probable cause factors suggest an 8-ball of Cocaine HCl, proper technique with this test will result in the 1st ampoule dissolving your suspected substance and the creation of a complete Blue solution. If your probable cause factors indicate Cocaine Base (crack), proper technique is to break off a small piece (the head of a straight pin size) of the substance, place it in the field test, and break the 1st ampoule. Cocaine Base (crack) will NOT DISSOLVE in this chemistry. In this case, your color would

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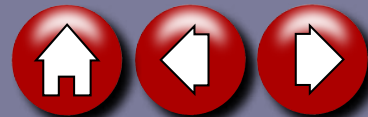
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be a Pink solution with Blue adhering to the fragments of Cocaine Base (crack) that you placed in the test. So in this case, by properly interpreting the colors you see in the specific presumptive field test executed with good technique, you will help determine not only that you have Cocaine but what form of Cocaine you have.

These are just a few examples of the knowledge your team can gain from Sirchie NARK Instructor training in the correct use and interpretation of the field tests. Sirchie offers this training at NO CHARGE to customers. If your agency would like to receive additional information, protocol sheets, or discuss hosting training, please contact Jack Thorndike (jackthorndike@aol.com).

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Heroin: An Increasing National Threat

As I train around the country in each class I conduct an informal poll as to the controlled substance issues they have and more specifically the single most growing threat to their jurisdictions. Not surprisingly, Marijuana is always a major player in all areas followed by either Meth or Cocaine depending on the region of the country. The other common denominator is throughout east of the Mississippi, West Coast and southern states, Heroin is the single fastest growing threat in the country.

Even though the source country of Heroin means nothing to the charges, I also asked what country they believe their Heroin is coming from? More common than not the answer comes back Afghanistan. This is most likely not the case. There are three regions of the world that produce Heroin: Afghanistan, Colombia and Mexico (Central America). The largest percentage of Heroin seen in the United States today is coming from our southern trafficking areas, either Mexican or Colombian product.

It's true that Afghanistan produces by far the highest percentage of Heroin. However, the majority of their product either remains in Asia or is shipped to Britain, Europe, Africa or Australia. Only a small percentage of their overall production is routed to the United States. In contrast, a very high percentage of the Colombian production and virtually all of the Mexican Heroin comes directly into the United States.



Narcotics officers from years ago will remember the low purity percentages we saw in Heroin. Most commonly these percentages were in the mid-single digit area. These purities required the substance to be injected to get the required bump. However, today the purity has completely changed. The Heroin purity we're commonly seeing has greatly increased which now allows the substance to be either snorted or smoked. These new methods of ingestion have opened up a

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much wider pool of potential users. The controlled prescription drug abusers that were using Oxycontin® (prior to the reconfiguration with the coating) and became opiate dependent now have an alternate product they can use without the phobia of injection.

If the threat of increased purity of Heroin is not enough, jurisdictions are also seeing a huge increase in Heroin overdoses. Some of these are certainly from old time injection users using heroin with the new purity and not being able to handle it. A larger percentage of these overdose deaths are coming from unsuspecting users not being aware that Fentanyl (or acetyl-fentanyl) are being cut into, or substituted for the product.

The Fentanyl issue raises a huge safety issue that all law enforcement needs to know. Fentanyl is considered to be up to 80 times the strength of Morphine. A very small amount of this substance can cause serious health issues even leading to death. Officers should be aware that field testing any suspected Heroin should always be done with NITRILE GLOVES (#SF0078, #SF0081, #SF0084). Nitrile gloves offer much higher protection than their standard latex cousins. After completing the field test, remove the gloves and wash your hands thoroughly. Both Heroin and Fentanyl are water soluble.

This leads us to field testing the substance. Sirchie have two field tests designed for opiates;

Mecke's Reagent (#NARK20011 – pouch; #NAR10016 – tube) designed to presumptively identify the semi-synthetic opiate of Heroin and Morphine

Special Opiates Reagent (#NARK20010 – pouch; #NAR10022 – tube) designed to presumptively identify fully synthetic opiates: Oxycodone, Hydrocodone, Fentanyl (acetyl-Fentanyl – analog of Fentanyl), Buprenorphine (Suboxone®/Subutex®), Desomorphine (Krokodil) and Zohydro



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SIRCHIE offers instructor courses on the correct use of our field tests. After completing this course, officers will have the ability to train other officers in the proper usage and handling of our presumptive narcotics field tests. For more information on these classes, contact Jack Thorndike at (910) 690-0642 or jackthorndike@aol.com.



NARK® NEWS



A Digital Newsletter for the Narcotics Investigator

If your probable cause indicates Heroin, always start with the Mecke's Reagent. This is a two ampoule field test. After introducing a small amount of substance to the test, break the 1st ampoule and agitate for 30 seconds. This agitation allows the chemistry to dissolve the substance and properly prepare it for the color reaction of the 2nd ampoule. Then break the 2nd ampoule, agitate the test and observe the color change as you agitate. If the semi-synthetic substance of Heroin/Morphine is present a Green color will develop. This color **MUST** develop within 60 seconds of breaking and agitating the 2nd ampoule.

Much of the Mexican Heroin we see today tends to be either Brown/Tan or Black Tar substances. Due to the color resins in these substances, the 1st ampoule may create a tan to brownish liquid. To guard against overpowering the field test with this dark color, be careful to place very small quantities of the substance in the field test. Keep in mind that the chemistry of the Mecke's Reagent Modified is very sensitive and the rule of "less is best" should be observed.



If the 1st ampoule did develop a tan to brownish liquid, watch the 2nd ampoule closely. After breakage and agitation the brownish color may overpower the Green and make it difficult to see. To help clear the field for better color interpretation, turn the test upside down and lightly tap the test. This will send the liquid to the "new" bottom of the test and thin the liquid at the "new" top. Look at the color adhering to the glass shards. You should see the Green color adhering to these glass shards.

Now let's deal with field testing Fentanyl or acetyl-Fentanyl. These substances are fully synthetic opiates which **WILL NOT** color react in the Mecke's Reagent. If you suspect Fentanyl, you would start with the Special Opiate Reagent and introduce a small amount of substance to the test. Once you break and agitate the single ampoule you will develop an immediate Yellow color in the presence of Fentanyl.

The most popular technical question I receive from officers is "How can we tell if Fentanyl is present?" Unfortunately, we can only tell if Fentanyl is present if there is **NO** semi-synthetic opiate present (Heroin/Morphine). Let's look at the following examples. In each of these instances we suspect Heroin is present:

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1. Heroin with no Fentanyl present: Start testing with the Mecke's Reagent. This substance will color react Green with the semi-synthetic opiate of Heroin/Morphine.
2. Heroin with Fentanyl cut into the substance: Start testing with the Mecke's Reagent. This combination of substances will color react Green due their being the semi-synthetic substance of Heroin/Morphine. The presence of Fentanyl will be ignored since the chemistry does not recognize the fully synthetic substance.
3. Fentanyl with NO Heroin present: Start testing with the Mecke's Reagent. Since Fentanyl is a fully synthetic substance, it will not color react in the Mecke's Reagent. You would then proceed to the Special Opiate Reagent, place a small sample in the test, break and agitate the ampoule. An immediate Yellow would appear in the presence of the fully synthetic opiate of Fentanyl.

Due to the rising health threat of Fentanyl in the United States, we are currently working on developing a specific field test designed to presumptively identify Fentanyl only. We will keep you apprised of the development of this new test in future issues of the NARK News.

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Interesting Narkbits

The following topics briefly discuss some commonly asked questions:

Burprenorphine (Suboxone[®]/Subutex[®])

An increasing trend around the country is the appearance of the fully synthetic opiate pain relief medication of Buprenorphine. This medication is commonly sold under the brand names of Suboxone[®] or Subutex[®]. It's most frequent appearance is either a hexagonal tablet (tannish-orange color with a slang expression of TANG) or buff colored strips. These strips can be taken sublingually (under the tongue), buccally (in the corner of the mouth) or insufflated (snorted). If snorted, individuals will chop the strips into very small pieces to accommodate snorting. Absorption through the nasal passages tends to intensify the high associated with this substance (very popular within Corrections).



Being a fully synthetic opiate, you can field test the substance using the Special Opiate Reagent (#NARK20010 – pouch; #NAR10022 – tube).

- If found in the tablet form, reduce a very small amount to powder
- If found in the orange tinged powder form, place that directly in the field test
- If in the strip form, cut off a small 1/16" square piece and introduce into the test.

After breakage and agitation of the ampoule, observe the immediate color reaction of Purple. This is indicative of the fully synthetic opiate of Buprenorphine.

If you require the protocol sheet for Buprenorphine, please click on the following link:
https://www.sirchie.com/media/resourcecenter/item/n/a/nark20010_protocol_sheet.pdf

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Suggestions for Nark News Topics

If you have any topic suggestions for upcoming editions of NARK News, please send them to: Jack Thorndike at jackthorndike@aol.com.

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Subscribing to NARK News is FREE. If your copy of the newsletter was forwarded to you or other officers within your department want to receive it, simply send a short note to Jack Thorndike at jackthorndike@aol.com. We will be pleased to add your name to future editions.

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Federal Scheduling: What factors determine where substances are placed?

The Federal scheduling categorizes substances into five schedules which are based on:

1. Currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States
2. Relative abuse potential of the substance
3. Likelihood of causing dependence when abused

The five schedules are:

Schedule I: no currently accepted medical use in the United States, lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision and high potential of abuse (Heroin, LSD, MDMA)

Schedule II: high potential of abuse which may lead to psychological or physical dependence (Oxycodone, Amphetamines, and Methamphetamine)

Schedule III: have less abuse potential than Schedules I & II and may lead to low or moderate physical dependence or high psychological dependence (Buprenorphine, Ketamine)

Schedule IV: low potential for abuse relative to Schedule III (Valium®, Xanax®)

Schedule V: low potential for abuse and contain limited quantities of certain narcotics (cough medications)

Nark Instructor Training

Sirchie is pleased to offer all customers the technical support of NO CHARGE Instructor training. This is conducted at your location with a minimum number of officers of twenty. Being sensitive to scheduling within the departments, we also offer to conduct these training session as either a morning, afternoon or both morning and afternoon session. We encourage the host department to open the training to their area agencies since there is no maximum limit placed on the size of the classes.

These classes are customized to each jurisdiction's specific substance needs (marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine) and also include complete coverage of the new synthetic substances. With the growing THC concentrates, we also cover this area extensively to make officers aware of this growing threat. Each department present at the training receives a No Charge copy of the training CD and each officer present receives a certificate of completion for Court purposes. Officers who participate in this training are then eligible upon completion to conduct training at their jurisdiction for officers who were either not in attendance or new future hires.

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If you wish to schedule or have additional questions concerning the training, please contact Jack Thorndike at jackthorndike@aol.com.

Nark News Topics of the Future

We make every effort to keep the topics covered in NARK News as current as possible. If you have suggestions of topics you would like to see discussed, please forward them to Jack Thorndike at jackthorndike@aol.com.

In our next edition, I have scheduled the following topics:

- Cocaine:** The Changing Face of This Illegal Trade
- Dabbing:** What is it and What Paraphernalia is Being Used?
- Corrections:** Major Trends of Synthetic Opiates & Cannabinoids
- Buprenorphine vs Methadone:** Which Treatment is Better?
- Mexican DTO's:** An Overview of Their Current Influence

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