



B13 Updates From the Drug Enforcement Administration National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS): Benzodiazepines Reported in the NFLIS — 2009-2015

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After attending this presentation, attendees will understand the breadth of information the NFLIS provides to the forensic science community.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing specific knowledge of national and regional trends for selected benzodiazepines reported to the NFLIS between January 1, 2009, and December 31, 2015.

The NFLIS is a program of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Office of Diversion Control, that collects drug identification results from cases analyzed by federal, state, and local laboratories. The NFLIS participation rate, defined as the percentage of the national drug caseload represented by laboratories that have joined NFLIS, is currently more than 97%. Presently, the NFLIS includes 50 state systems and 101 local or municipal laboratories/laboratory systems, representing a total of 277 individual laboratories. The NFLIS database also includes federal data from DEA and United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) laboratories. Results from the NFLIS are regularly used to support drug scheduling efforts and to aid drug initiatives, including the identification and tracking of emerging drugs of abuse.

National annual estimates for selected benzodiazepines, regional alprazolam, clonazepam, and diazepam trends, and selected benzodiazepines reported by federal laboratories are presented. This presentation will also highlight selected benzodiazepines of interest that are not approved for therapeutic use in the United States, counts of alprazolam reported with other drugs in the same item, and reports of clonazepam, phenazepam, and etizolam by state in 2009 and 2015.

Based on previously published NFLIS 2009-2014 data, a total of 369,738 benzodiazepine reports were identified by state and local laboratories. Alprazolam, clonazepam, and diazepam were the most commonly reported benzodiazepines during this period, with alprazolam accounting for 66% of all selected benzodiazepines. Phenazepam was first reported to the NFLIS in 2005 and had a total count of 302 reports between January 2009 and December 2014, and etizolam was first reported in 2012 and had a total count of 254 reports during that same period. Diclazepam was first reported in 2014 and by that year's end had a total count of two reports.

The NFLIS publicly shares data that can benefit management decisions of crime laboratories through various reports throughout the year, including special reports on such drug classes as presented in this presentation. The NFLIS provides a resource for the community to identify and respond to drug trends.



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