

# check your life - check your drugs

IDC – Integrated Drug Checking: more than just  
analysis

by  
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Recreational drug use in Luxemburg and across Europe,  
September 30th, 2015

# Short introduction of checkit!

- “ institution for recreational drug users
- “ low threshold approach
- “ selective prevention
- “ scientific approach
- “ Integrated Drug Checking (IDC)

# IDC – Integrated Drug Checking

at electronic music events

once a month

Chemical &  
psychosocial staff  
onsite

HPLC/MS

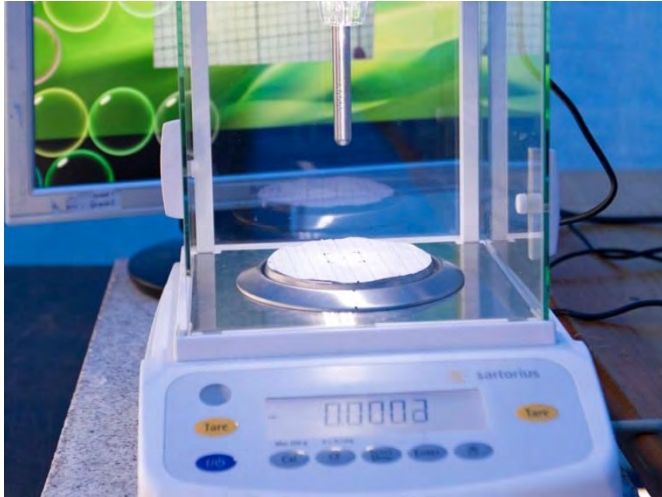
analysis



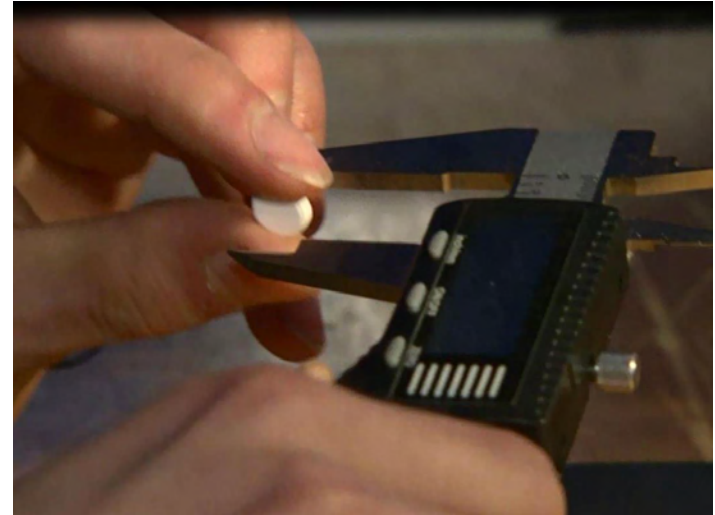


# Analysis on-site

## 1. Samples are weighed and documented



- " sold as
- " administration form
- " shape
- " profile



- " colour
- " breakline
- " logo
- " consistency

# Analysis on-site

2. Sample handed in: small amount (<5 mg) of the sample is scraped into the test tube







suchthilfe  
wien

Stadt+Wien

checkyourdrugs.at

# Categories of results

There are three main categories:

- “ Expected substance
- “ Non-expected substance
- “ Highly toxic substance



Two additional marks:

- “ High dosed
- “ new psychoactive substance





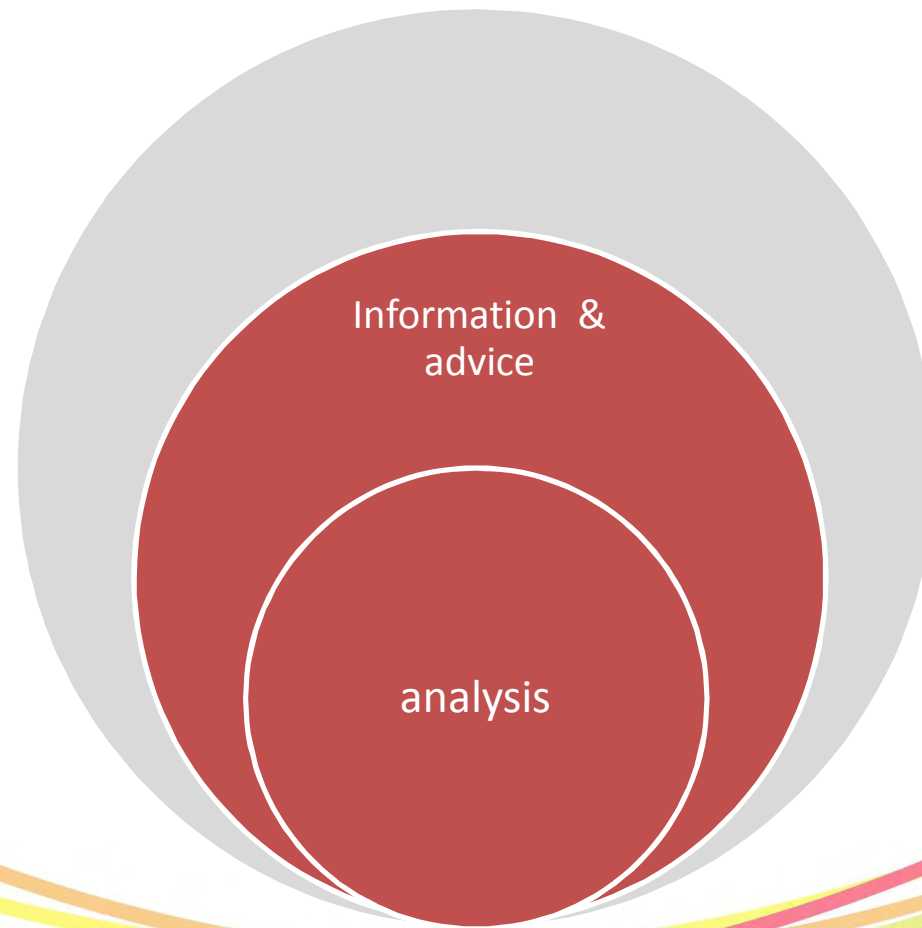
# Results

“ „results wall“ (no picture of sample)  
results are posted within 15 – 40 mins (anonymously)

“ database on webpage  
(logo and foto 6 months after testing)



# IDC – Integrated Drug Checking



# Staff on-site

- “ Information and counselling:  
up to 6 social workers and psychologists (freelancers)
- “ Tent and Lab:  
up to 3 chemists



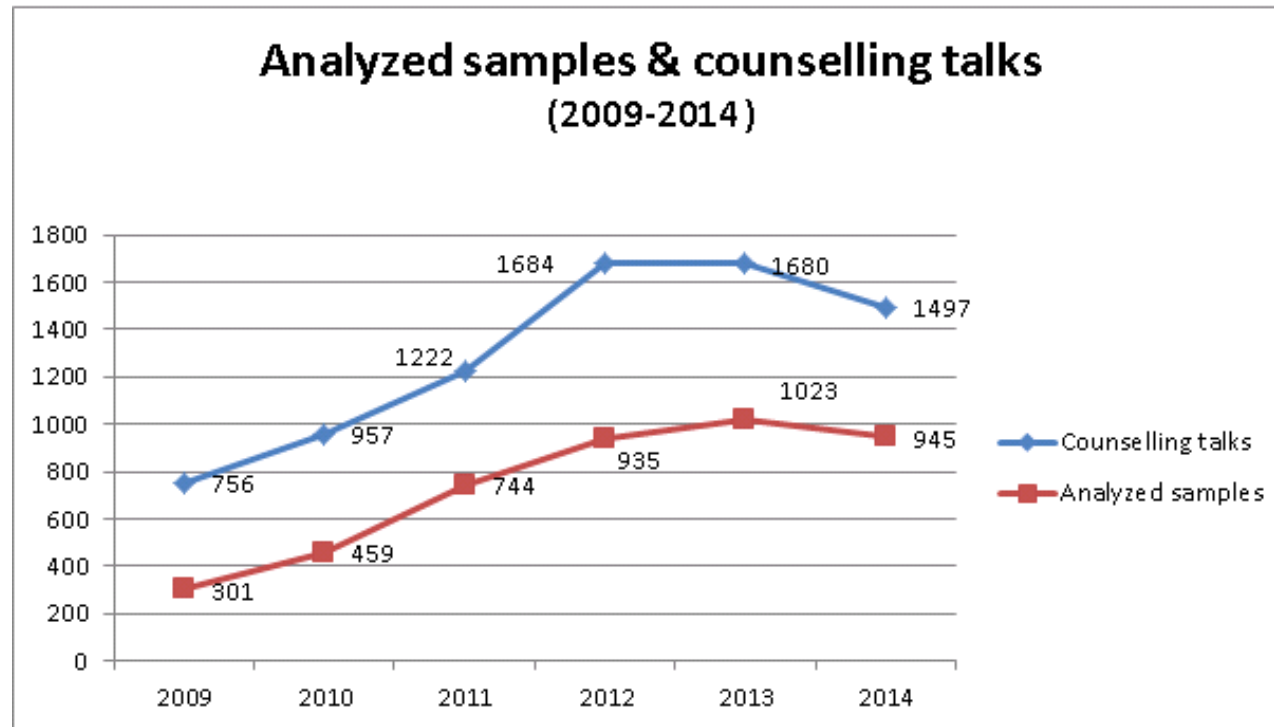


# Onsite . services



- “ reach consumers of (new) synthetic drugs
- “ to empower users to judge the risks associated with drug use and to handle substances more safely
- “ risk-aware behavior is promoted
- “ warning of highly toxic substances are given

# Onsite . services



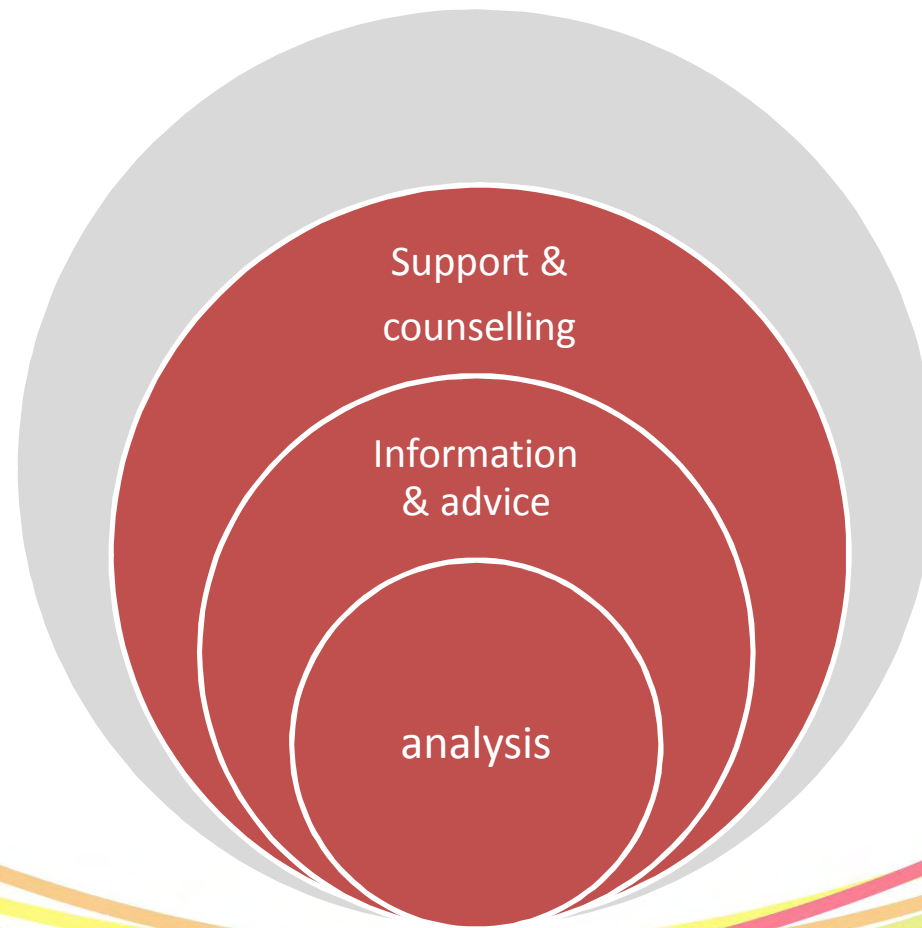
# checkit! services

## ” On site

- ~ 20 days on site, ~15 days with analysis/year
- ~ 5.000 information talks and counseling/year
- ~ 1.000 analyses of psychoactive substances/year



# IDC – Integrated Drug Checking



# checkit! – drop in shop



# Permanent Services



- “ information and counseling online, via telephone and face to face in the *checkit!* Homebase (since 2006) in different settings
- “ legal consultation
- “ information via [www.checkyourdrugs.at](http://www.checkyourdrugs.at) and social media



# Other activities

- “ preparation of information material
- “ trainings / workshops
- “ reports / concepts
- “ Research

Two peer-projects:

- “ PartyFit!
- “ Vollfan statt vollfett

# General Objectives

- “ prevention of problematic consumption patterns
- “ prevention of short, middle and long term adverse effects on health
- “ gain scientific knowledge of illicit substances on the black market and patterns of consumption

# Principles & methodical approach

- “ voluntarity & anonymity
- “ accepting approach%
- “ distribution of unbiased information
- “ counselling based on motivational interviewing



# Involved Professionals

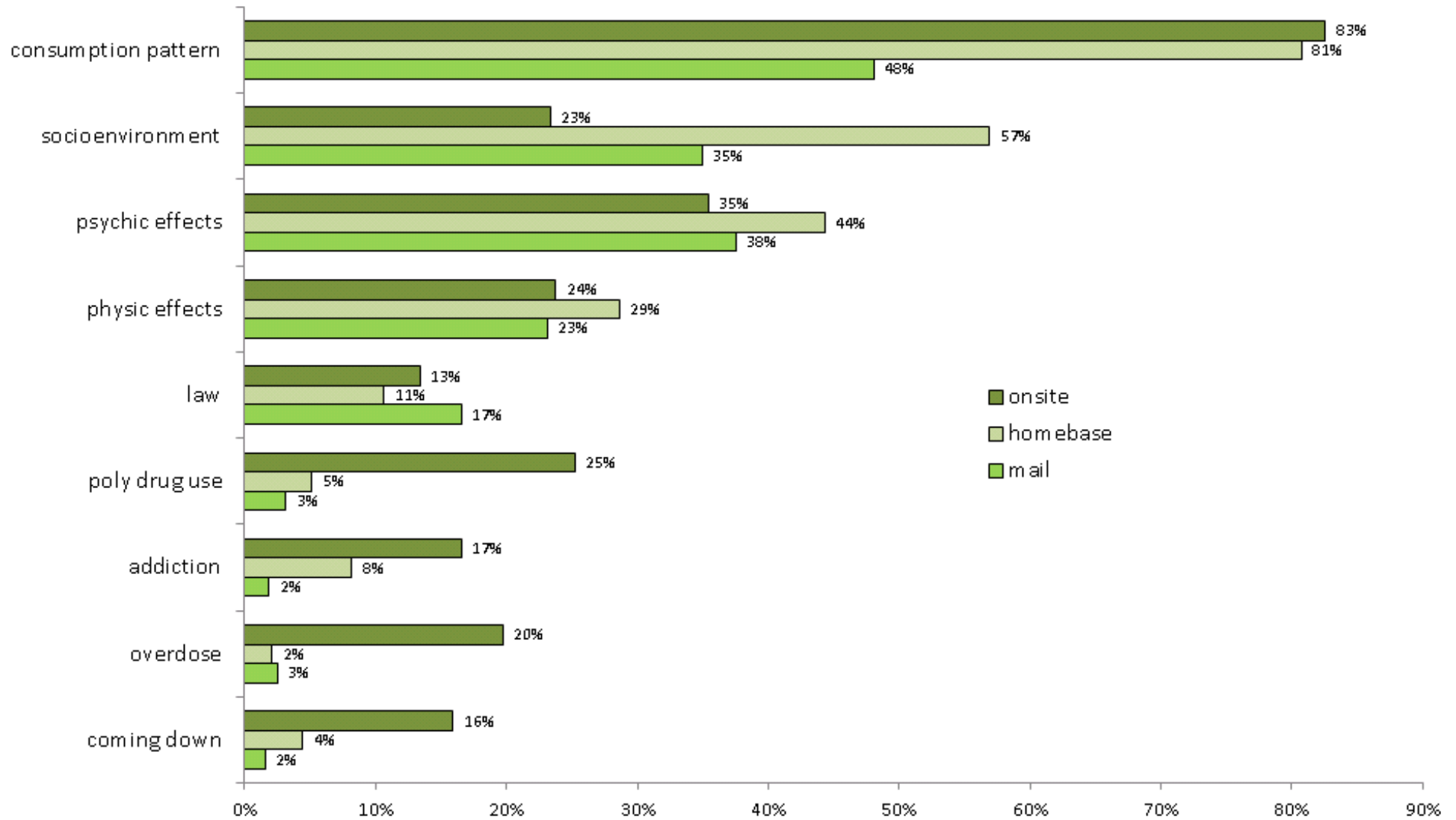
## Team:

- nine full and part time staff members (socialworkers, psychologists, chemists, pharmacologist)
- about 20 freelancers for outreach

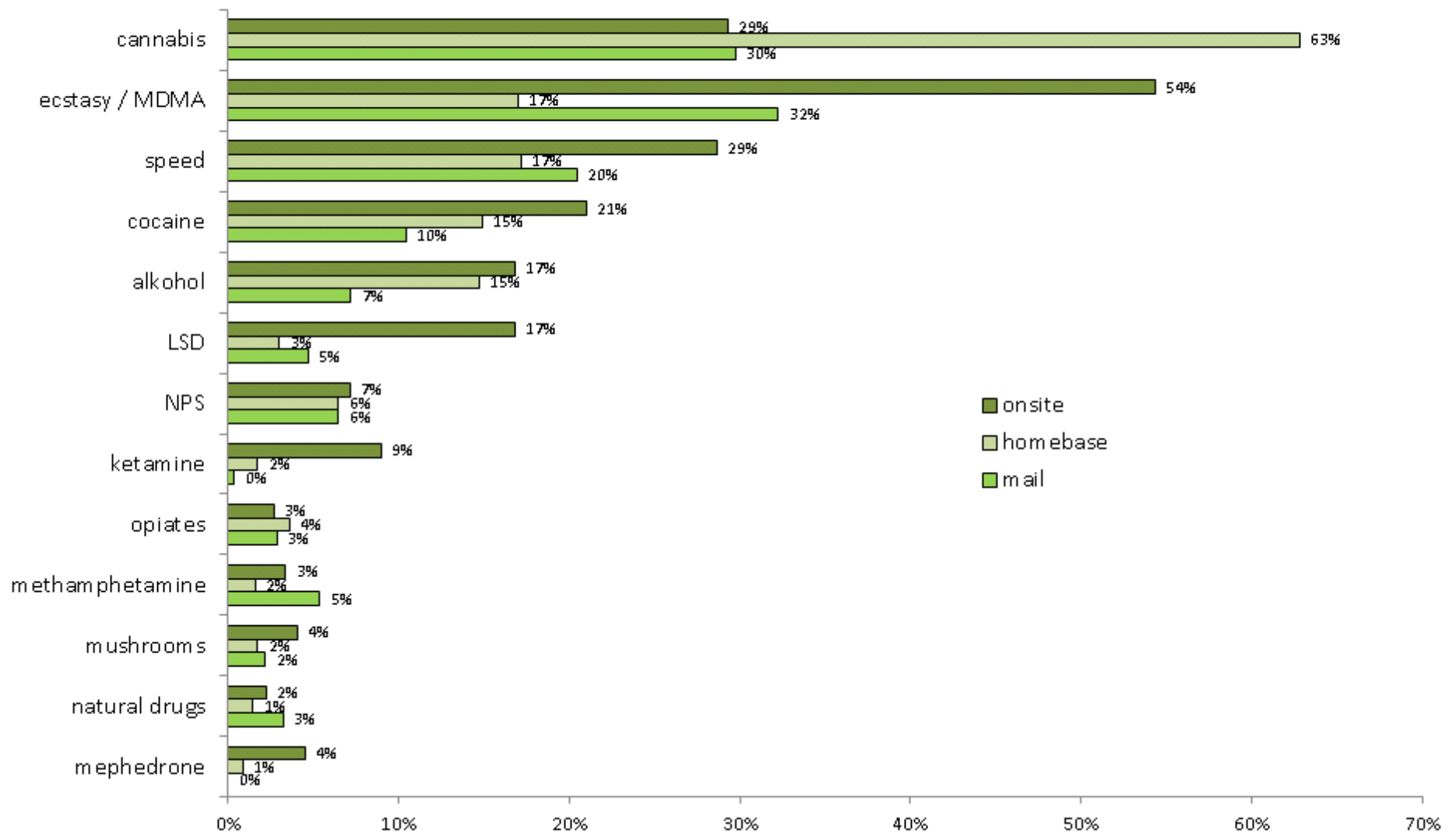
# checkit! services

- “ Online enquiries ~ 350/year
- “ Telephone enquiries ~450/year
- “ Face to face ~750/year
- “ Legal consultations ~200/year

## Topics in counselling talks (2014) - according to settings

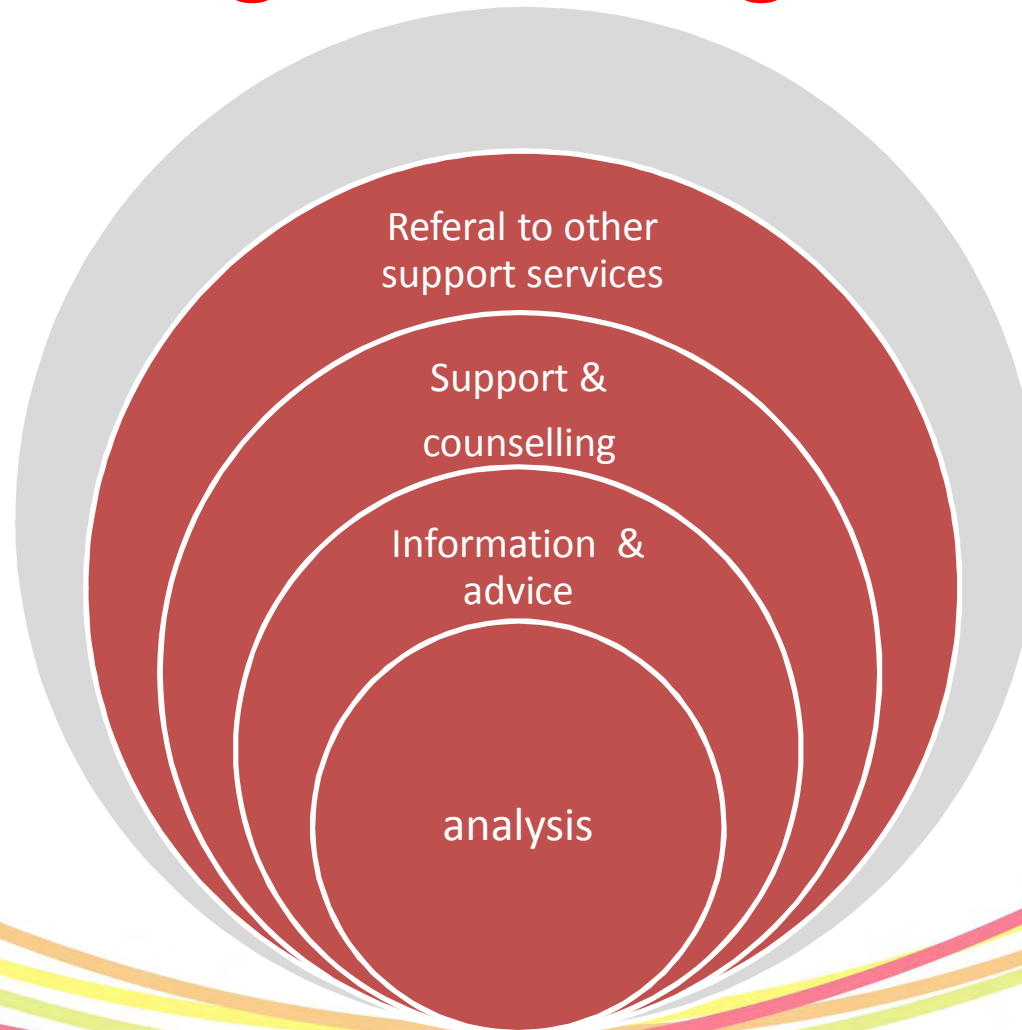


## Substances thematized in counselling talks (2014) - according to setting

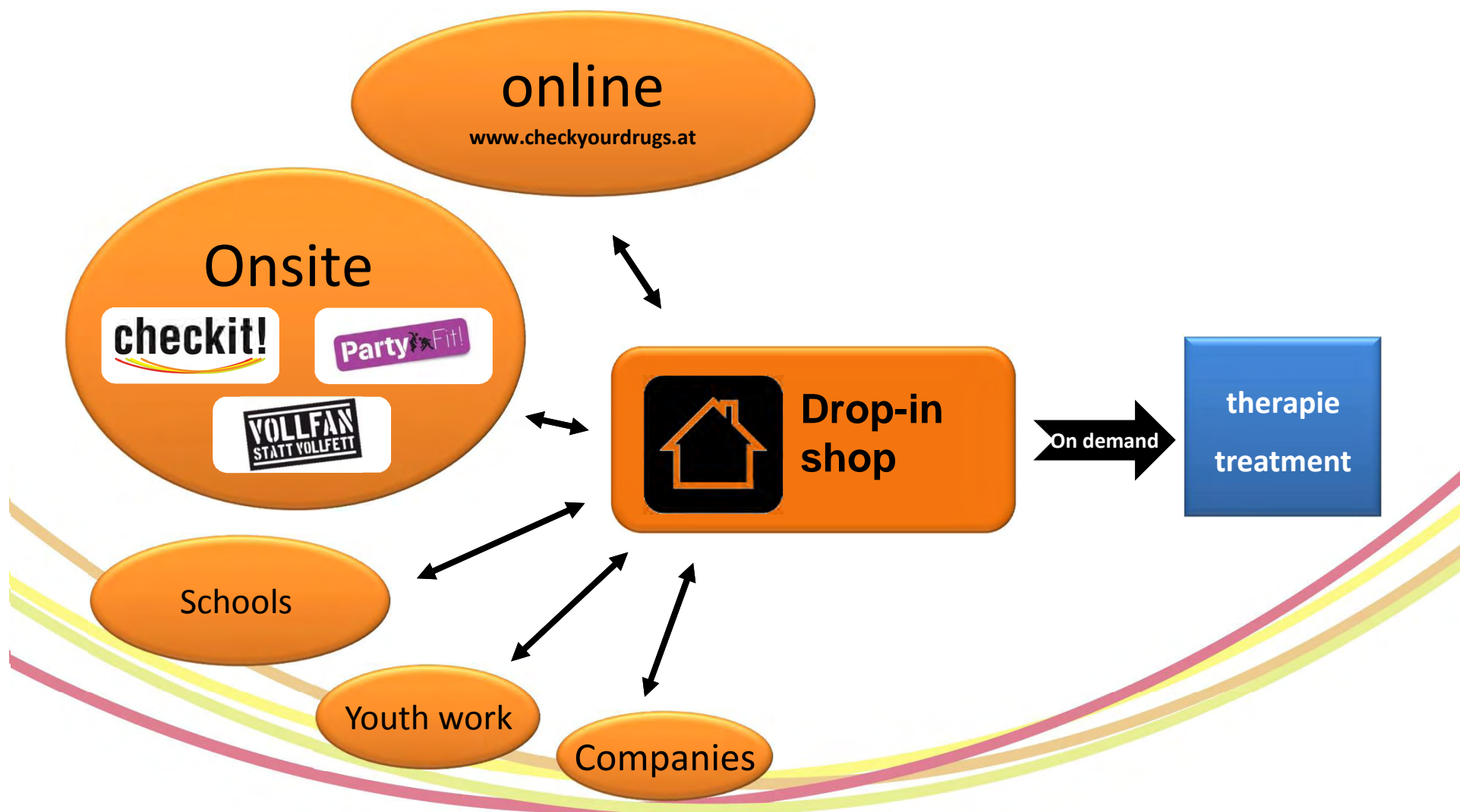




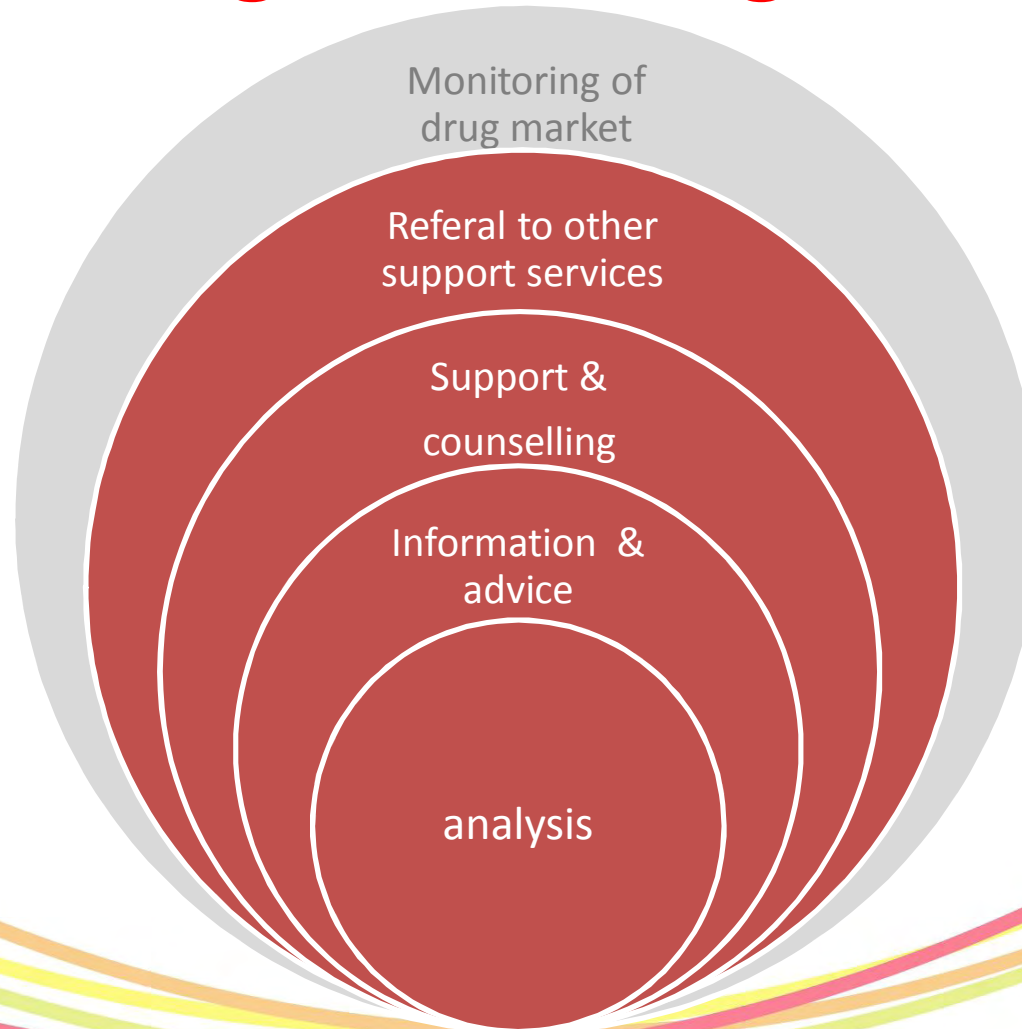
# IDC – Integrated Drug Checking



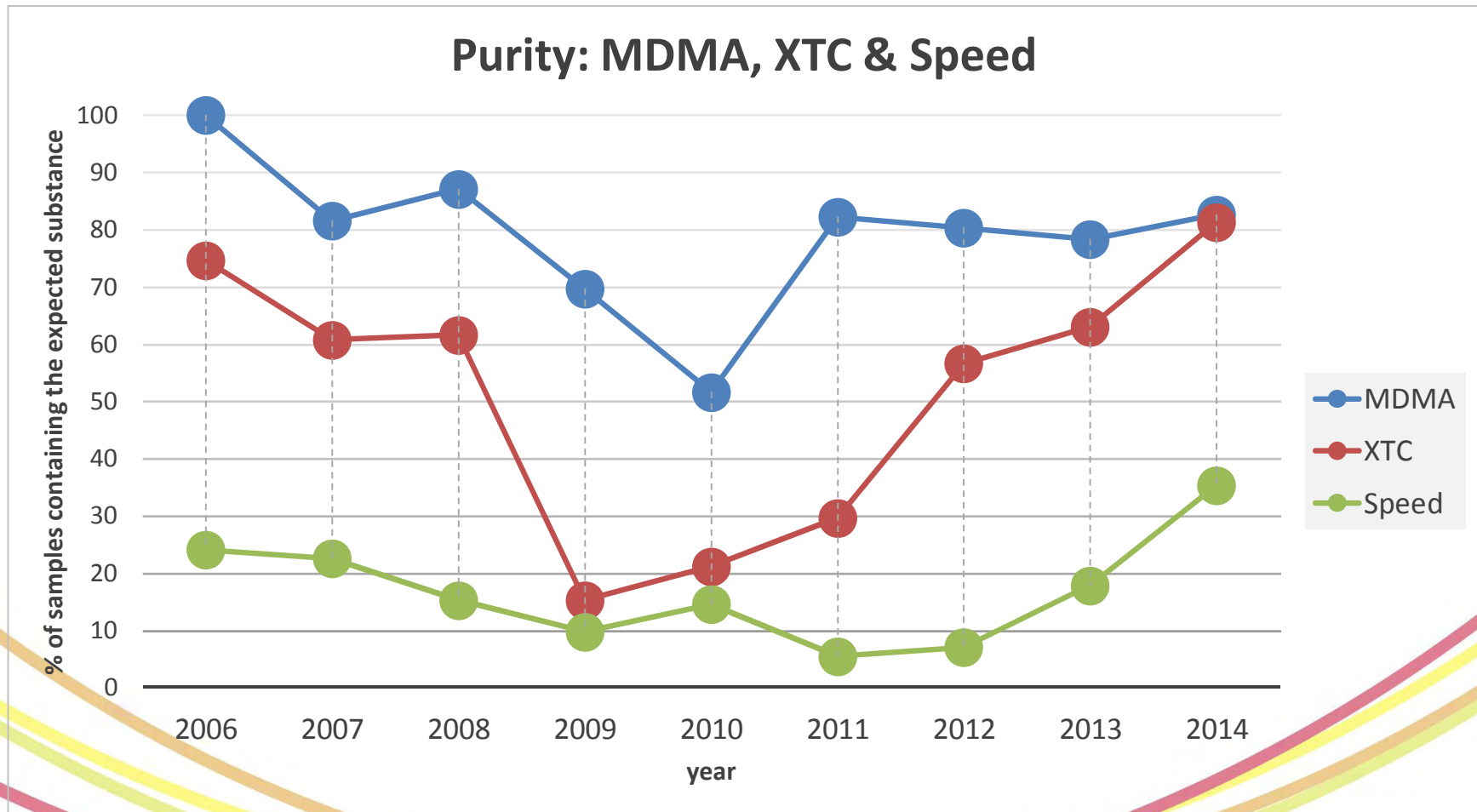
checkit! as first contact with the help service



# IDC – Integrated Drug Checking

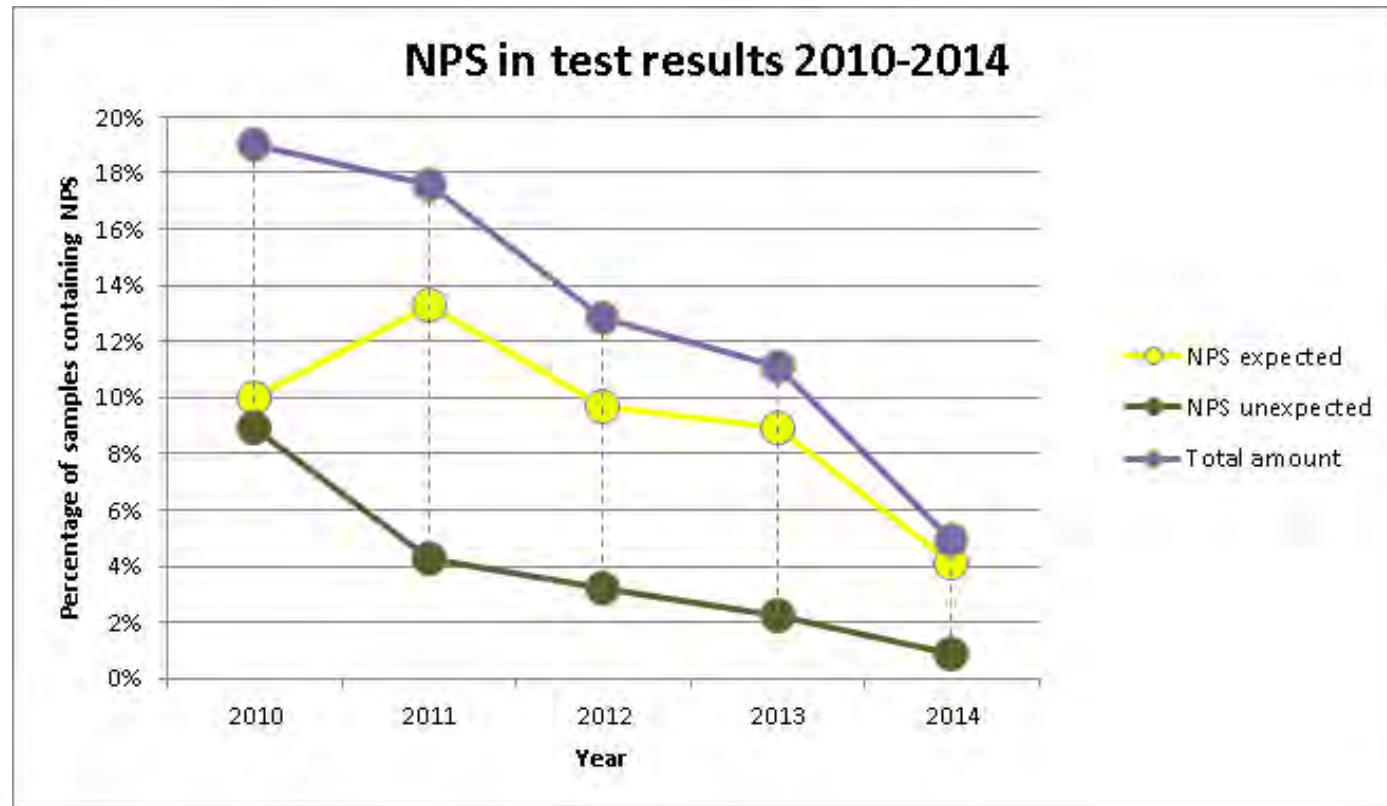


# Latest developments (1)





# Latest developments (2)



# Requirements for IDC?



# Psychosocial requirements

- “ Regular training of outreach staff
- “ Thoroughly conducting inbriefs and outbriefs of outreach teams
- “ Perpetual communication between lab & psychosocial team
- “ Use of social networks for results dissemination
- “ Networking with other social support institutions
- “ Europewide networking
- “ Research in relevant online boards
- “ Internet Monitoring

# Analytical requirements

- “ Analysis under changing environmental conditions
- “ Robust analytical method required
- “ Rapid and differential analysis of unknown substances
- “ Quantitative determination
- “ High throughput analysis (ca. 100 samples/night)
- “ Rapid results presentation
- “ High requirements for equipment, material and staff





Thank you for your attention!

Contact:

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[www.checkyourdrugs.com](http://www.checkyourdrugs.com)

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wien

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