

International Insights: Learnings from Drug Checking in the UK & Europe

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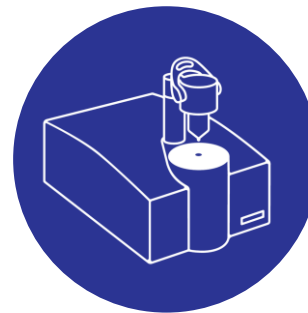
Drug Checking in Aotearoa



Aotearoa first country
to legalise in 2020 and
permanent in 2021



Legal framework with
licencing, auditing,
specified technologies
& service modes



Scientific testing of
substances to indicate
likely composition -
free & confidential



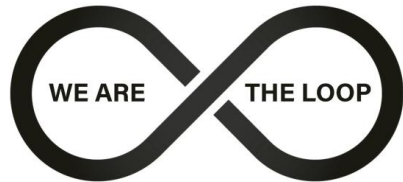
Results provided
alongside harm
reduction advice



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Drug Checking in UK & Europe



- Most similar to NZ
- Restrictions on who gets test results – habitual use, harmful substance or not what they thought
- Trialling new methods and technologies



- Similarities to NZ
- Fixed site service with a small laboratory
- Psychologist, doctor, nurse, drug checking, needles and more
- Purity analysis
- Low funding available



- Mail-in service
- Clients pay for post or can send through a partner organisation
- Do not report cutting agents or fillers
- Operating at capacity with controls

Learnings for Aotearoa



5 Years of legalised Drug Checking on 7th Dec and significant growth in this time



Provision of results and harm reduction information to everyone is essential



Trialling new technologies and updating drug libraries essential for changing drugs



Incorporation of other health services alongside and supply of needles and more



Consider the role of purity analysis in Drug Checking, likely requiring whole tablets



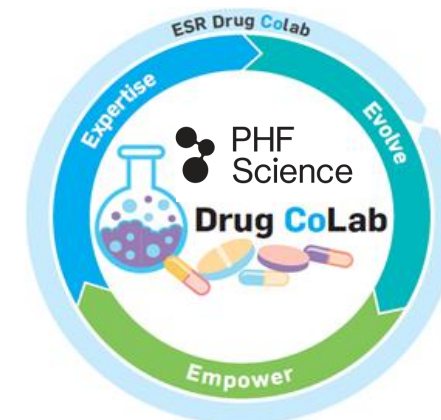
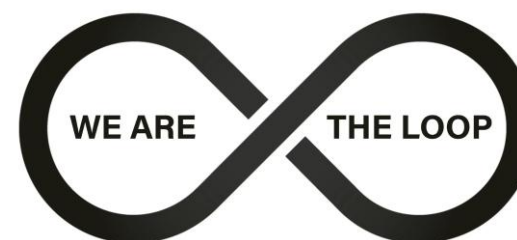
Continue expanding access to services – mobile, mail-in, smaller towns etc.

Acknowledgements



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