

# VALIDATION OF ORAL SCREENING DEVICES FOR DRUG-IMPAIRED DRIVING

D'Arcy Smith, RCMP
Lloyd Robertson, Ontario Ministry of Transportation
CARSP
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#### **OVERVIEW**

- Issue
- Objective: Drug Screening Devices
- Partnership with RCMP/CSFS
- Drug Screening Devices
- Methodology
- Timeline
- Field Work
- Operational Considerations
- Roadside Drug and Alcohol Survey





#### **ISSUE**

- Drug-impaired driving is becoming as significant a problem as alcohol-impaired driving
- Drug-impaired driving is different and more complex than drinking and driving
  - Many drugs, different effects on driving (dose/response)
  - No roadside screening device or "approved instrument" as in case of alcohol

Recorded Occurrence of Driver Condition in Drivers Killed (ORSAR Table 2.7)

	2010	2011	2012
Had Been Drinking or Alcohol-impaired	117	83	101
Drug-impaired (Increased drug testing of drivers killed began in February 2011)	3	57	65
Inattentive	24	23	18
Medical/Mobility impairment	15	27	6
Fatigue	9	7	9





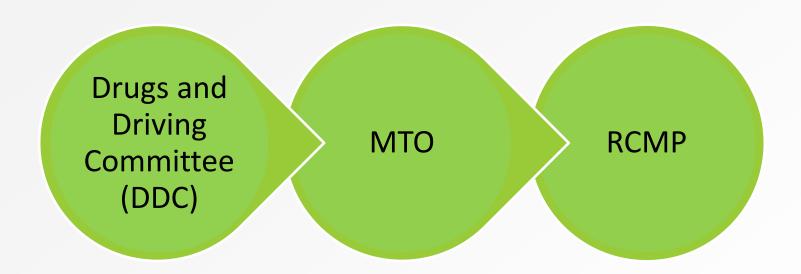
# **OBJECTIVE: DRUG SCREENING DEVICES**

- Since 2009: Growing body of research shows improvements in technology
- MTO has provided funding to help speed up the work of testing screening devices for roadside drug testing
- Research project—results will allow standards to be established to determine the accuracy and reliability of devices



01/31/2014

# Partnership/Main Players



- Established by Canadian society of forensic science.
- Will lead data collection and analysis.
- Will develop standards and final report.

- Contributed \$100k in funding
- Will provide support to project staff as needed
- Contributed \$100k in funding
- Provided senior staff in-kind to work on project





#### DRUG SCREENING DEVICES

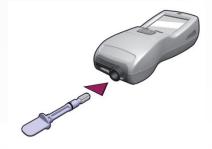
- Alere DDS 2
- A: Insert test cartridge into analyser

• B: Collect oral fluid sample

C: Insert collection device into test cartridge











#### DRUG SCREENING DEVICES

- Securetec DrugWipe 6S
- A: Separate two parts of tester

B: Swipe down the tongue

• C: Re-connect two parts

D: Insert into reader











#### DRUG SCREENING DEVICES

- Dräger DrugTest 5000
- A: Test Kit: a ready-to-use test cassette with a built-in sample collector and volume adequacy indicator.
- B: Analyzer: a rechargeable, fully automated analyzer providing controlled accurate analysis on site









#### **METHODOLOGY**

Gather samples Test samples for Phase 1 from U.S. inmates Field/Lab Work specific drug and volunteers types (2014-15) (2014-15)Sensitivity, Phase 2 **Expected July** specificity & **Report Results** reliability of 2015 devices Guidance for Develop Phase 3 Validating oral **Expected** Standards and December 2015 fluid devices in **Final Report** future





#### **TIMELINE**



MTO provided \$100k to match funding from RCMP

March 2014 –June 2015  Collect 600 samples from inmates and test 4000 lab samples

July 2015

- Report on Phase 1
- Focus group testing with law enforcement

Dec 2015

Draft standards and final report





#### Field Work

- D'Arcy Smith (RCMP, CSFS) has done data collection (biological samples) primarily in Phoenix and Jacksonville (Florida)
- Locations pre-arranged as sites for DRE training and certification.
  - Tests done on all subjects who are available, and agree to participate. Suspected or known to have drugs on board
- In some cases D'Arcy has had to make additional arrangements to find promising sites—especially for benzodiapines
- Samples tested on site, as recommended by manufacturers;
   then sent to a lab for independent verification





#### Field Work Details

- Each device tests for 6 panels of drug types
  - Needed: 600 samples; 170-180 subjects
  - As of May 6, 2015 the number of subjects tested are: 219 (Alere), 210 (Securetec) and 172 (Drager) (includes 'known' Negatives)
  - This has yielded just over 700 results: 256 results (Alere), 235 results (Securetec) and 211 results (Drager) (more than one drug from some samples) with a further 30 or so samples still awaiting analysis as of May 10, 2015





# Spring 2015

- Issues include: moving supplies across U.S. border, finding human subjects with "benzos," access to a working Drager device, groups canceling scheduled events.
- Field work is now essentially complete and will be turned over for statistical analysis.
- Lab work in Halifax: work underway
- Even with logistical difficulties, only a slight delay
  - Results look promising, devices are generally working well





# Sensitivity/Specificity

- In the field, 30% "negative" results—threshold at which machine records "positive" often too high for the drugs people have in them.
  - False negatives (checking against lab): devices are set at a pre-determined level for each drug; for cannabis it might be 4 or 5 nanograms; lab can detect much lower levels
- 1% to 3% "false positives" (checking against lab):
  - Sometimes lab checks for 8 opiates, device picks up one not included in
- Machines not achieving sens/spec as advertised; special artificial saliva, etc.





### Operational Considerations

- Possible use
  - Initial screen if driver seems impaired but not by alcohol
  - Supplement to Standard Field Sobriety Test (SFST) (at roadside), Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Evaluation (at station)
- Cannot replace DRE, or even SFST (at this time)
  - Most useful in rural areas, no office with DRE training?
  - Can reduce load on DRE officers
- Will always test for a limited panel of drugs vs. designer drugs, etc.





#### **NEXT STEPS**

Discussions at the federal level: Criminal Code

Discussions with police, other road safety stakeholders



# ROADSIDE DRUG/ALCOHOL SURVEY: FINAL REPORT

Driver age groups	Positive for alcohol	Positive for drugs
16-18	0	6.6% (all cannabis)
19-24	3.4%	21%
25-34	6.6%	13.9%
35-44	6.5%	10.0%

- Males/females equally likely to test positive for drugs but: males more cannabis, females more opioids
- More cannabis among younger drivers; opioids and stimulants among older





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