

Drug-related deaths data from the two different sources



Małgorzata Dalmata Polish Focal Point



Two data sources

Central Statistical Office

 Forensic Science Department of the Medical University of Warsaw (cooperation since last year)





Collecting DRD data by Central Statistical Office







I NARKOMANII

Collecting data by Central Statistical Office





I NARKOMANII

Data from the Central Statistical Office: Number of Deaths in Poland





Number of deaths in Poland in 2016 by regions





Source: Central Statistical Office



Age of death in 2016 in Poland





Source: Central Statistical Office



The methodology of collecting data

- Data on deaths in Warsaw metropolis come from the Toxicological laboratory of the Forensic Science Department of the Medical University of Warsaw.
- The data were collected upon the request of the National Focal Point. The **data contain an individual code, age, sex and substances detected in the toxicological analysis**.
- □ The toxicological analysis is conducted upon the **request of the prosecutor's office**, in the case of sudden death or when psychoactive substance use is suspected.
- The toxicological analysis is performed using the Ellis method **for six groups of substances: opiates, cocaine, amphetamines, THC, benzodiazepines, and methadone**.
- □ Following the screening tests, **two separate instrumental tests are carried out**. The data presented refer to the population aged under 60.
- The toxicological data do not indicate the primary drug which caused death, and almost all deaths in the data for 2016 were induced by the consumption of more than one psychoactive substance.





Number of cases with known toxicology (Warsaw agglomeration):47 Krajowe Biuro do Spraw Przeciwdziałania Narkomanii





Source: Medical University of Warsaw, 2016



CENTRUM INFORMACJ O NARKOTYKACH I NARKOMANII

Age of deathtoxicology data (Warsaw)



Source: Medical University of Warsaw, 2016



O NARKOTYKACH I NARKOMANII

Psychoactive substances detected in the toxicology in Warsaw



Source: Medical University of Warsaw, 2016



Comparing Warsaw data





Source: Central Statistical Office, Medical University of Warsaw, 2016

Comparing Warsaw data (gander and age)



0 NARKOTYKACH I NARKOMANII



Source: Central Statistical Office, Medical University of Warsaw, 2016



Limitation of data comparison

- □ The data cames from two different places
- The data sets are not homogenic (one data set comes from Warsaw and one from Warsaw agglomeration)
- □ There are only two variables to compare the data
- There are not a lot of cases in both data sets (thankfully, I guess)
- □ There is no common coding





Lessons learned

The data is there!

- Despite of a lot of limitations, Forensic Toxicology is the only place of collecting data about substances
- The more data we have about detected substances the more complete picture we have about the DRD in Poland
- There is still A LOT to do in this area for the rest of the country
- We have a forthcoming project with the Medical University of Warsaw that includes more in-depth study of cases





Thank you

Małgorzata Dalmata malgorzata.dalmata@kbpn.gov.pl

