

CASE-BASED LEARNING COLLABORATIVE ON STIMULANTS CME SERIES

1st and 3rd - Fridays at 12pm-1pm PT

The Center For Behavioral And Addiction Medicine
UCLA Department Of Family Medicine
Los Angeles County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
UT Southwestern Clinical Trials Network Big South/West Node



UT Southwestern CTN Big South/West Node



Co-use of stimulants and other drugs: Drug checking, harm reduction, overdose prevention, and street engagement

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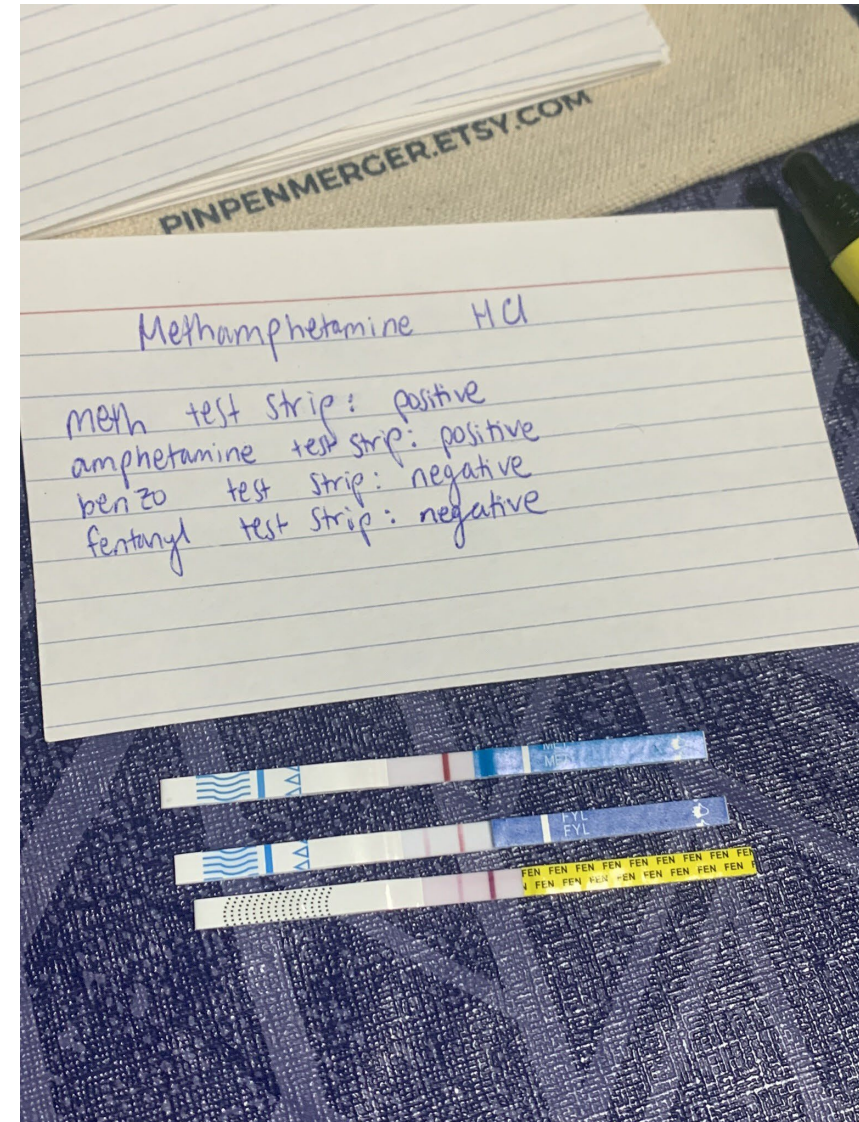
Skid Row Support & Training Team

Los Angeles County Dept. of Health
Services

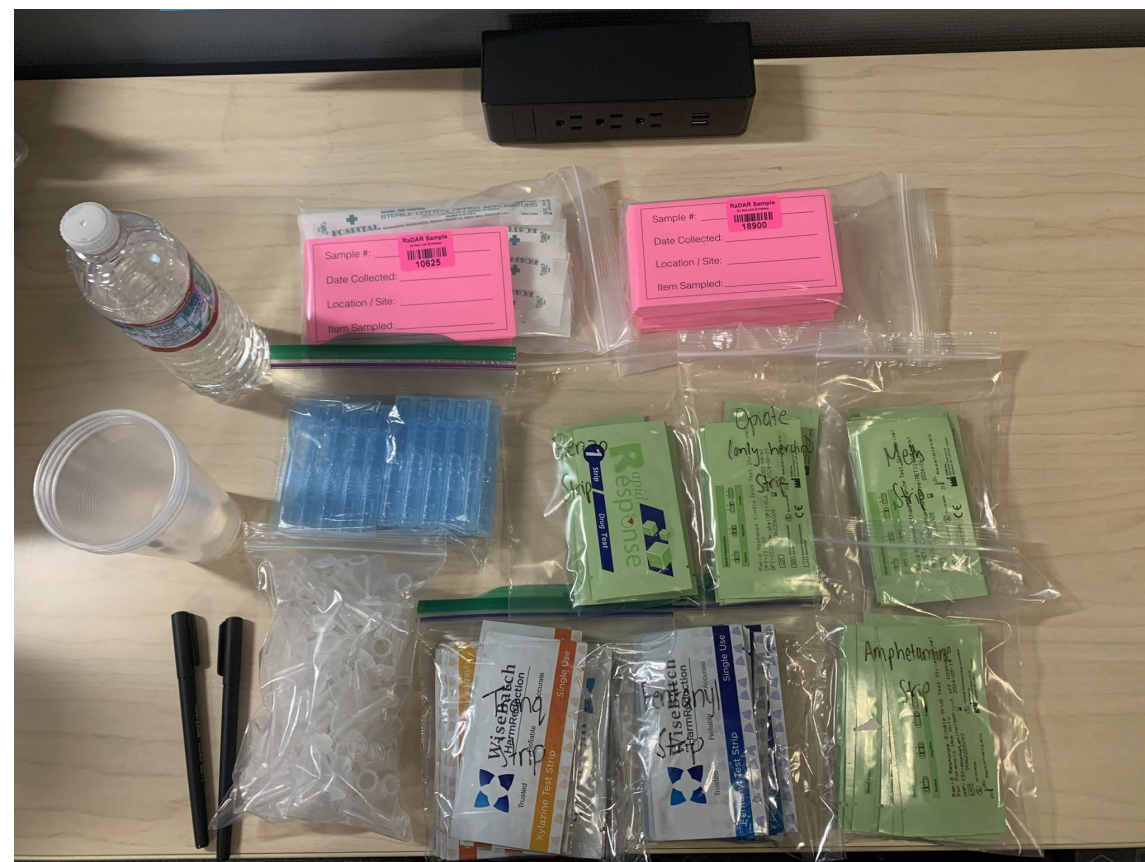


February 16, 2024

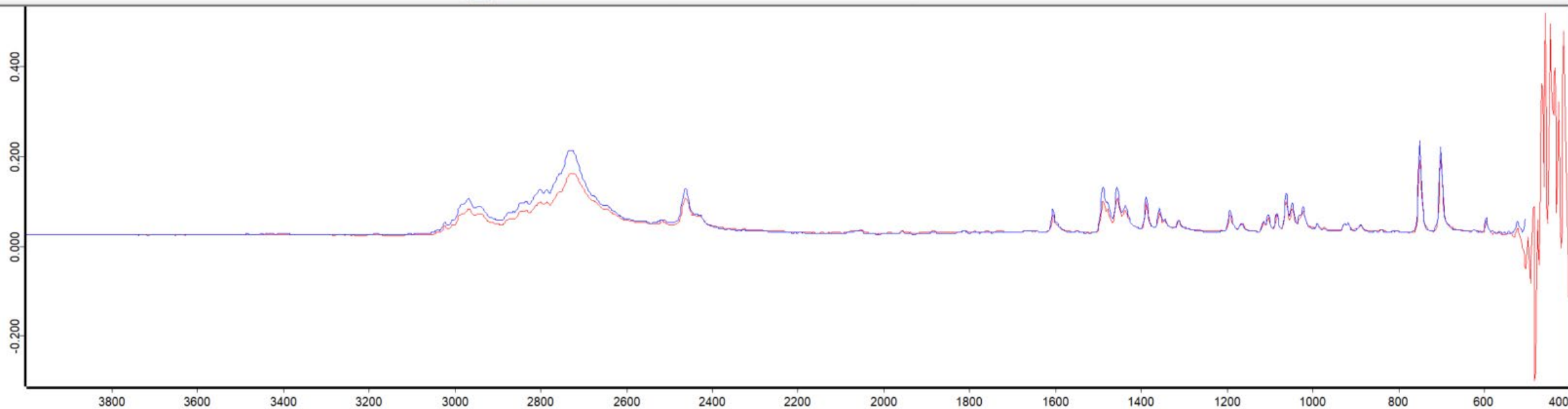
Drug Checking LA



Field-based set-up vs. SUPER mobile



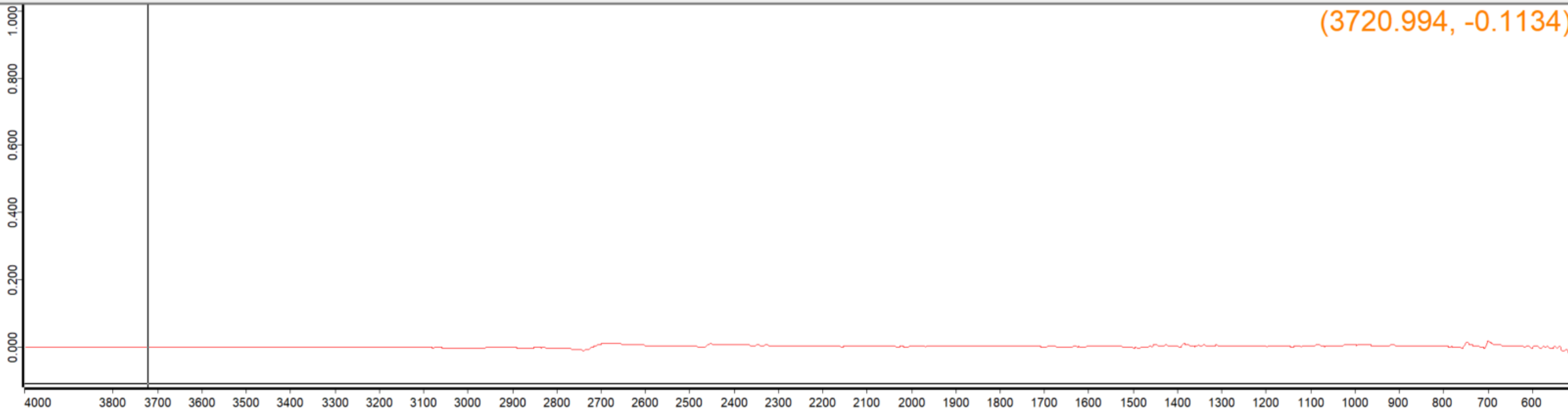
Compound information	
Substance	Methamphetamine HCl
Category	Stimulant - Amphetamine
AKA	Crystal meth
Collected	August 15 2018
Lab tested	100%
Entry No.	1



Hit No.	Color	Hit Quality	Compound Name	CAS number	Molecular formula	Molecular weight
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	870	Methamphetamine HCl			
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	832	METHAMPHETAMINE.HCL	51-57-0	C10H16ClN	185.7
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	416	D-DESOXYEPHEDRINE			
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	408	METHAMPHETAMINE HCL			
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	407	FERROCENE 1-CYANOMETHYLENE-DIURENE	53553-16-1	C24H20Fe	406.25

Color	Path	Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C:\Users\Public\Documents\Bruker\OPUS_8.7.31\DrugID	Query Spectrum

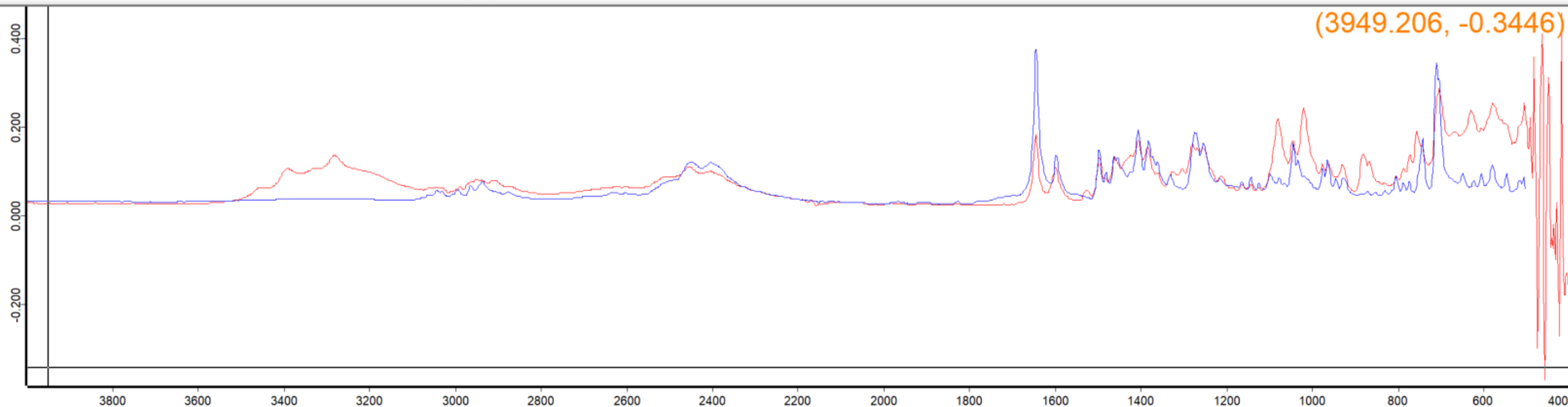
Compound information



Hit No.	Color	Hit Quality	Compound Name	CAS number	Molecular formula	Molecular weight
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	446	METHAMPHETAMINE HCL			
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	435	D-DESOXYEPHEDRINE			
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	386	1-AMINO-2-PHENYLPROPANE	582-22-9	C9H13N	135.21
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	384	ISOAMYL BENZENE	2049-94-7	C11H16	148.25
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	352	ETHYL BENZENE	100-41-4	C8H10	106.17

Color	Path	Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ■	12Jan23 05.0	C:\Users\Public\Documents\Bruker\OPUS_8.7.31\DrugID
		Query Spectrum

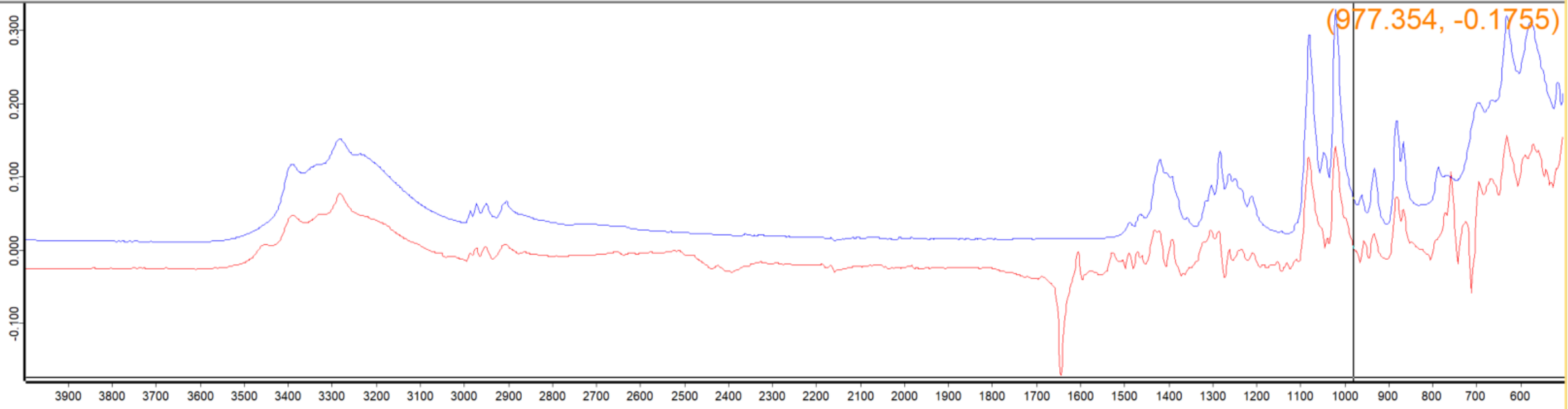
Compound information	
Substance	Fentanyl HCl
Category	Opioid
Collected	September 05 2018
Lab tested	91%
Entry No.	7
Library name	BCCSU FTIR-ATR LIBRARY 2022-04-...



Hit No.	Color	Hit Quality	Compound Name	CAS number	Molecular formula	Molecular weight
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	478	Fentanyl HCl			
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	436	Mannitol			
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	422	D-MANNITOL	69-65-8	C6H14O6	182.17
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	370	SOMATROPIN	12629-01-5	C990H1529N263O299S7	22124.09

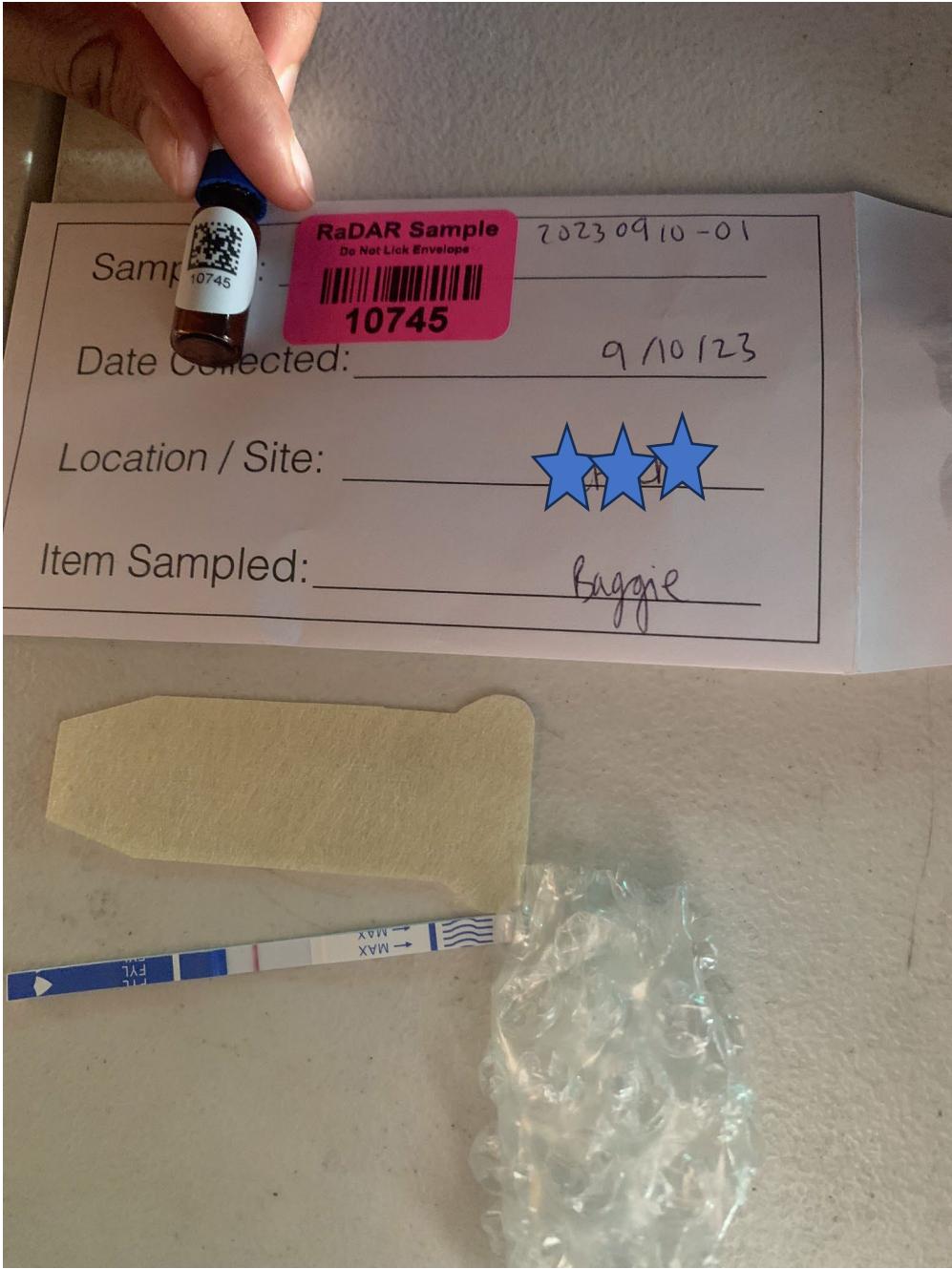
Color	Path	Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C:\Users\Public\Documents\Bruker\OPUS_8.7.31\DrugID	Query Spectrum

Compound information	
Substance	Mannitol
Category	Diluent
Collected	September 13 2018
Lab tested	N/A
Entry No.	16
Library name	BCCSU FTIR-ATR LIBRARY 2022-04-...

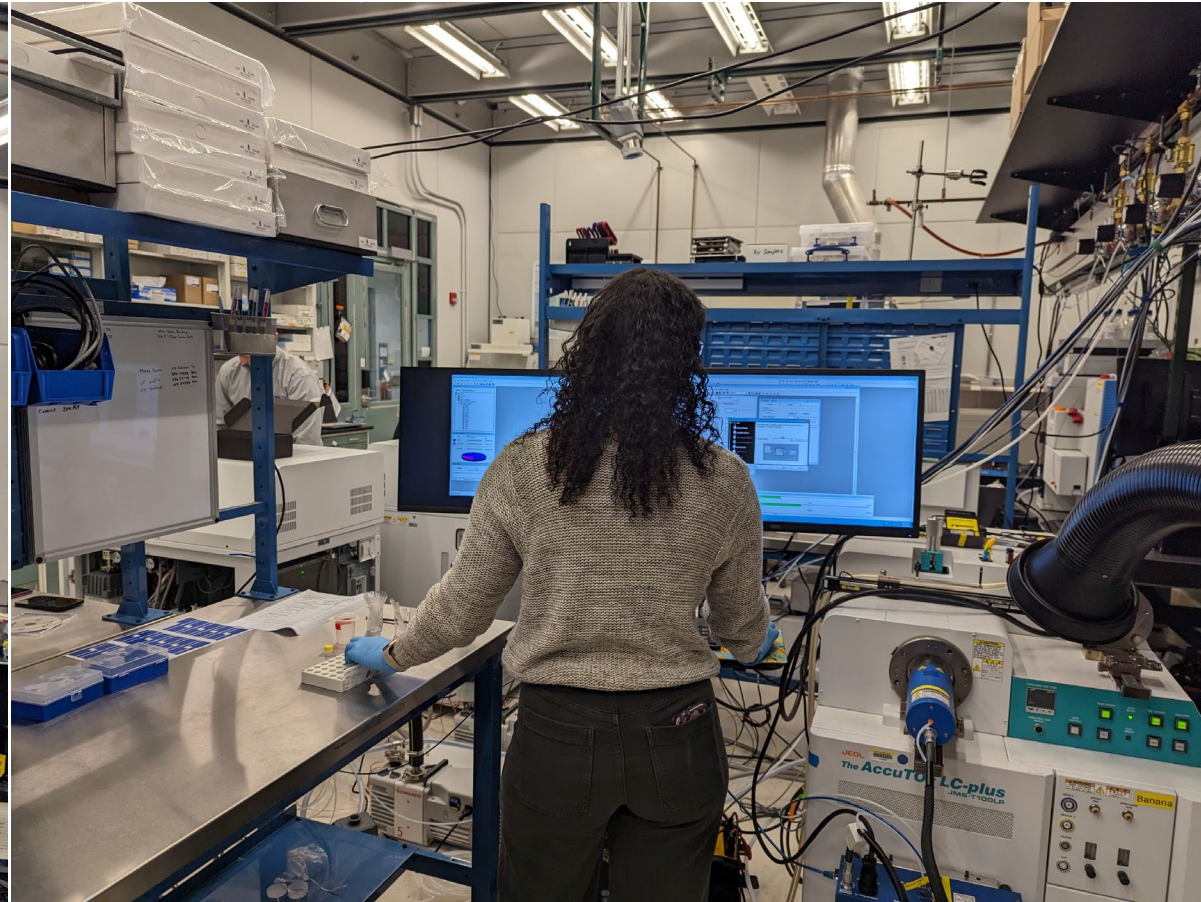


Hit No.	Color	Hit Quality	Compound Name	CAS number	Molecular formula	Molecular weight
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	431	Mannitol			
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	395	D-MANNITOL	69-65-8	C6H14O6	182.17
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	370	SOMATROPIN	12629-01-5	C990H1529N263O299S7	22124.09
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	313	MANNITOL NS			
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	272	SUMMATROPIN USP			

Prepping for confirmatory testing



Confirmatory testing at National Institute of Standards and Technology Lab (Maryland)



Some reasons people who use stimulants check their drugs (from tech notes)

- “Didn't originally want to use fentanyl, but seller put fentanyl in her speed and she started having withdrawals after a month when she got just plain meth. Previous batch of fentanyl she tried burned her throat and lungs when she smoked it, so she wanted to check this new one.” [fentanyl]
- “Wants to test because heard from UCLA Vine St Clinic research study drug test that they had fentanyl in their system but do not use it.” [results: methamphetamine]

Some reasons people who use stimulants check their drugs (from tech notes)

- “Not as strong- the high isn't the same, but it may be tolerance. Will use it and fall asleep. Client shared that they think a lot of their meth use comes from self-medicating for ADHD. They previously took Adderall as an adolescent in the foster care system but when they aged out and reconnected with their parents they were told that they did not need Adderall anymore because ADHD symptoms get better as you age. We passed along referrals to a clinic in Skid Row they could visit for contingency management, etc.” [results: methamphetamine]
- “Didn't last as long as usual and the high didn't feel as strong. Purchased from a different seller than usual. Also noticed the crystals were more crystal crumbles rather than crystal shards. Both reasons are why they wanted to test.” [results: methamphetamine]

Meth quants

Sample No.	Demographics	Checked at site	Purchase zip code	Form	Color	Point-of-service results	Client comments
1	Genderqueer person, 40s, own/rent home	Hollywood	90017 (Westlake)	Powder	White, shiny	Methamphetamine	"Felt the same"
2	Genderqueer person, 40s, own/rent home	Hollywood	90017 (Westlake)	Crystal	Clear	Methamphetamine	"Nothing out of the ordinary"
3	No demographics provided	East LA	Not provided	Powder	White	DL-methamphetamine and methamphetamine HCL	N/A
4	No demographics provided	East LA	Not provided	Crystal	White	DL-methamphetamine and methamphetamine HCL	N/A
5	Cisgender man, 40s, own/rent home	Hollywood	90014 (Downtown)	Pressed pill	Orange	Cellulose microcrystalline, positive meth strip	Purchased as Adderall

Meth quants, continued

Sample No.	Consistency	Color	Quantitative results
1	Powder	White, shiny	65.29% methamphetamine
2	Crystal	Clear	69.9% methamphetamine
3	Powder	White	22.77% methamphetamine
4	Crystal	White	56.65% methamphetamine
5	Pressed pill	Orange	2.77 methamphetamine; 0.02 ketamine (can't rule out cross contamination, as several ketamine samples that day)

Case #1: Polysubstance use, SMI, and Accessing resources in interim housing

- The client is a cisgender woman in her 30's experiencing sheltered homelessness who reports polysubstance use including meth use
- The client delivers a handwritten letter to the case manager
- The case manager expresses frustration with the letter because it's difficult to understand. The content of the letter appears mixed-up and disorganized
- I model trauma informed approach with the case manager to review the letter and we determine that the client is reaching out to request assistance getting connected to healthcare
- I model with the case manager to let the client know she received the letter, express appreciation to the client for reaching out, and fulfill the client's request for linkage to healthcare services

Case Study 2: Purple sticky rock

- Cisgender man, 40s, lives in single-room occupancy building ~12 miles from Downtown LA
- Bought sample in Downtown LA/Skid Row
- Thinks sample is “tranq dope”, fentanyl with xylazine
- Tech notes: “The rock is purple but when you squish it, there are some green pieces to it too. The consistency when squished is very tar-heroin like in terms of stickiness.”
- FTIR: Fentanyl, mannitol
- Methamphetamine strip positive, FTS positive
- DART-MS: Fentanyl, methamphetamine, 4-ANPP

Case #3: Polysubstance use and linkage to healthcare via meaningful rapport building

- The client is a cisgender man in his 50's experiencing sheltered homelessness, who reports polysubstance use including meth and PCP use
- Untreated hernia causes him severe pain over a long period of time
- He believes medical providers are trying to harm him
- I formed a relationship with him by regularly checking-in and taking a genuine interest in his story and experiences (motivational interviewing)
- I attended several medical appointments, provided case management around transportation and scheduling

Case study 4: White shiny granules

- Client declined to provide demographics
- Sample believed to be methamphetamine, purchased in Skid Row
 - White/clear granules, has a sheen
- FTIR: methamphetamine HCL & cocaine freebase
- Fentanyl test strip (using stimulant dilution): Negative
- DART-MS testing: Cocaine, methamphetamine, **fentanyl**

Case #5: Meth use, chronic homelessness, and linkage to interim housing

- The client is a cisgender woman in her 30's experiencing unsheltered homelessness who reports meth use
- She has been homeless on Skid Row for 5+ years and has minimal exposure to interim housing resources
- I was introduced to her by another client who vouched for me
- Over ~ 2 months I developed a relationship with her
- I collaborated with her on finding an interim housing placement which met her specific needs
- I transported her to the interim housing site and attended the complete intake process

Syringe sampling: what are people injecting in/around MacArthur Park

- Pilot with LA City Sanitation
- Monthly sharps box pick-up of 4 kiosks
- 103 syringes tested so far (DART-MS)
 - 70 no compounds detected
 - 15 had methamphetamine only
 - 5 had fentanyl only (1 w/ caffeine)
 - 9 had fentanyl, meth, and precursors (e.g., 4-ANPP, phenylethyl 4-ANPP) and/or non-psychoactive ingredients (e.g., lidocaine, caffeine, acetaminophen)
 - 2 had fentanyl, meth, xylazine, precursors, and inactive ingredients (though 1 xylazine was below trace)
 - 1 had acetaminophen only



Thank you!

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