DRUG ABUSE SURVEILLANCE

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PROGRESS REPORT

In Thailand, drug abuse has been a problem for a long time and has now become a major threat causing social problems and effecting the country’s development. The Royal Thai Army considers this problem a threat to national security and has issued order 94/2524. This includes regulations to protect army personnel and their families as well as to provide help for those who need it and assist them in re-entering society.

The Narcotics and Toxicology section was established in AFRIMS in 1978. We perform a survey of drugs used by 1st army region recruits and military student applicants by urinalysis. There are two test procedures being done in our lab, namely screening (immunochromatography) and confirmation levels (gas chromatography / mass spectrometry). Results show that opiates, amphetamines, cannabinoids and their derivatives show positive results at 1 in 5967 (0.02%), 20 in 6690 (1.02%) and 0 in 4906 (0%) respectively.