

Novel Psychoactive Substances Frontline Alert: Emerging Substances

Since implementation of our previous test update in June 2025, we have identified 6 new substances not previously detected in our laboratory.

To stay current with the rapidly changing landscape of new and emerging drugs, Aegis has committed to bi-annual NPS test menu updates to include the tier one and tier two recommendations established collaboratively by the Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE) and the Society of Forensic Toxicologist (SOFT) NPS Committee.

Class	Drug/Substance	Times Detected
Designer Benzodiazepines	3-OH-Desalkylgidazepam	66
Designer Benzodiazepines	a-OH-Phenazolam	152
Designer Opioids	N-propionitrile Chlorphine	< 10
NPS Other	Etomidate	< 10
Synthetic Cannabinoids	ADB-4en-PINACA HP	10
Synthetic Cannabinoids	MDMB-4en-PINACA NBA	219

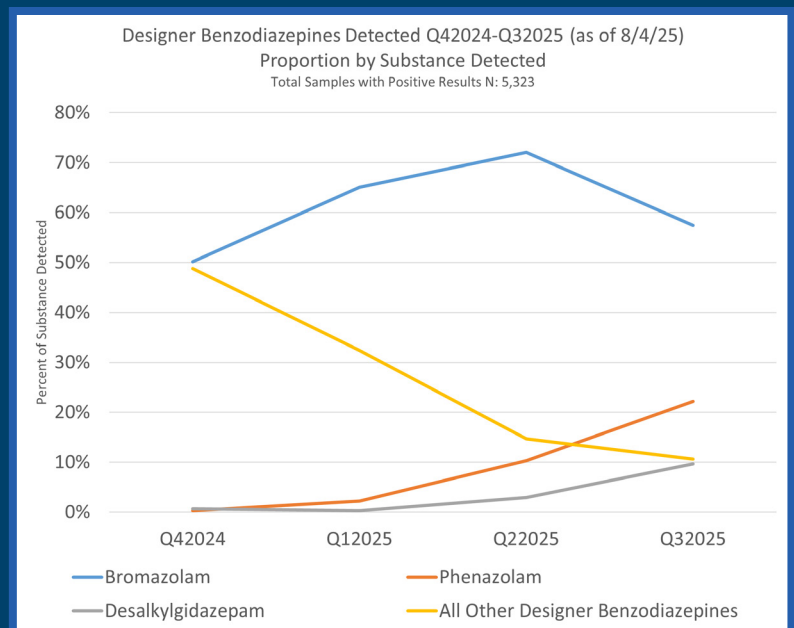
Total samples tested with positive findings: 447. Findings reflect reported results from samples received for testing between 6/2/2025-8/1/2025 and reported as of 8/4/2025. Samples may be positive for more than one substance.

Emerging Threat: Rising Detection of Phenazolam and Desalkylgidazepam

- Phenazolam and Desalkylgidazepam are two designer benzodiazepines that were first reported as detected in the United States in 2022.^{1,2}
- As of August 2025, neither drug is explicitly indicated as a controlled substance in the United States.
- When taken, designer benzodiazepines can have significant adverse effects, including overdose and withdrawals, due to their unpredictable potency and ability to depress the central nervous system.
- While bromazolam continues to be the predominant designer benzodiazepine detected in the United States, our data indicates that both phenazolam and desalkylgidazepam detection are on the rise within our population.

Reference:

- <https://www.cfsre.org/images/monographs/Phenazolam-120622-CFSRE-Toxicology-Report.pdf>
- <https://www.cfsre.org/images/monographs/Desalkylgidazepam-120922-CFSRE-Toxicology-Report.pdf>



For real-time findings of definitive testing results, please visit our NPS Insights Dashboard: www.aegislabs.com/npsinsights