ACMT Seminars in Forensic Toxicology: A Legal "PotPourri"

Co-Sponsored by the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.

Day 1: The New World of "Legal Marijuana"
Day 2: Challenges in Toxicologic Consulting

December 9-10, 2015
Marriott City Center, Denver, CO

Course Description

Come and enjoy a specially crafted two-day conference that covers a pair of relevant and timely forensic topics. Day one is devoted to a spectrum of legal concepts focused on the medicinal and recreational use of cannabis. As marijuana expands into the fabric of everyday society, new and complicated issues continue to arise. The nationally renowned expert faculty will cover patient-level concerns for use and impairment, public health issues such as childhood exposures, and purported marijuana alternatives among other topics. The second day changes direction and addresses practical, real-world issues faced by any toxicologist with an active or burgeoning consulting practice. Again using seasoned experts, the conference will emphasize challenging, relevant issues such as the role of casual observers (aka. dram shop), postmortem toxicokinetics, and the subtleties of providing powerful testimony. Small group, interactive, and multimedia presentations will be used to enhance the curriculum. ACMT has had great success in developing educational programs for toxicologists of all backgrounds, including analytical, clinical, forensic, and medical toxicology.

Learning Objectives

Utilizing case based didactics, literature review, breakout groups and panel discussions, this practical course will allow the participant to:

- Present the concepts underlying social, pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic ethanol tolerance to a lay jury.
- Describe the legal framework for civil tort and criminal cases involving impairment by marijuana.
- Evaluate allegations of impairment by alcohol, marijuana, and prescription medication based on post-accident or post-mortem measurements.
- Discuss problematic expert reports.
- Identify important findings from death scene investigations and postmortem toxicology and laboratory interpretation.

For more information visit: http://www.acmt.net/2015_ACMT_Seminars_In_Forensic_TOxicology.html
Agenda Day 1-December 9, 2015

7:00-7:45am - Registration and Continental Breakfast

7:45-8:00am - Welcome and Introductions

8:00-8:45am - Overview of Recreational & Medical Marijuana Laws
Christian Sederberg, Esq., Partner, Founding Member Vincente Sederburg, Denver, CO

8:45-9:15am - Acute vs Chronic Frequent Cannabis Intake
Marilyn A. Huestis, PhD, Senior Investigator, Chief, Chemistry and Drug Metabolism Section, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH, Bethesda, MD

9:15-9:45am - Eating, Drinking, and Vaping: Expanding Options for Consuming Cannabis
Andrew Monte, MD, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, CO

9:45-10:05am – Break

10:05-10:50am - Effects of Cannabis With and Without Low Dose Alcohol on Driving
Marilyn Huestis, PhD

Marilyn A. Huestis, PhD

11:20-11:50am - Buyer Beware: Cannabinoid Analysis in Cannabis Products
Sarah S. Urfer, MS, D-AFBT-FT, Laboratory Director, President, Owner, ChemaTox Laboratory, Inc., Boulder, CO

12:00-1:00pm - Lunch on your own

1:00-1:45pm - Who’s in Charge: Interpretation of Workplace Tests for Cannabinoids
Kenneth W. Kulig, MD, FACMT, Toxicology Associates, Denver, CO

1:45-2:15pm - It’s Not Your Mother’s Mary Jane: Clinical Presentations Associated with High-Potency Pot
Christopher Hoyte, MD, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, CO

2:15-2:45pm - Pediatric Concerns Due to Expanded Cannabis Use
George Sam Wang, MD, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, CO

2:45-3:00pm – Break

3:00-4:00pm - The Dos and Don’ts of Expert Testimony in Marijuana Driving Cases: A Judicial Perspective
Judge Mary Celeste (Ret), Denver, CO

4:00-5:00pm - Case Review: The Toxicologist in the Marijuana Court
Michael J. Kosnett, MD, MPH, FACMT, Associate Clinical Professor, Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Colorado School of Public Health, Denver, CO and Faculty

6:00-7:00pm - 16th Street Mall Social Event (venue to be announced)
7:00-7:55am - Continental Breakfast

7:55-8:00am - Opening Remarks

8:00-8:30am - Impairment by Ethanol: The Experimental and Epidemiological Evidence
  Robert D. Johnson, PhD, DABFT, Chief Toxicologist, Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, Ft. Worth, TX

8:30-9:00am - Impairment of Driving Related Abilities
  Robert D. Johnson, PhD, DABFT

9:00-9:20am - Advanced Analytics of Alcohol Consumption
  Robert D. Johnson, PhD, DABFT

9:20-9:40am – Break

9:40-10:40am - Value and Perils of Back-Extrapolation
  Jeffrey A. Brent, MD, PhD, FACMT, Distinguished Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, College of Public Health, Denver, CO

10:40-11:10am - "Why Can't You See What Is Obvious To Me?": Visible Impairment and the Nature of Observation
  Charles A. McKay, MD, FACMT, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Hartford, CT

11:10-11:40am - Expecting the Unexpected: Clinical Effects of Synthetic Cannabinoids
  Mark K. Su, MD, MPH, Clinical Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY

11:40am-12:10pm - Ongoing Challenges for the Tox Lab in Identifying Cannabinoid Receptor Agonists
  Sarah S. Urfer, MS, D-AFBT-FT

12:10-1:15pm - Lunch on your own

1:15-1:45pm - From Death to Death Certificate: What Do the Dead Say?
  James R. Gill, MD, Chief Medical Examiner, State of Connecticut, Hartford, CT

1:45-2:15pm - Forensic Pathology and Ethanol
  James R. Gill, MD

2:15-3:45pm - Breakout Workshops Attend 2/3 Sessions
  1. Doing the Math: Back Extrapolation in Alcohol-related Cases Jeff Brent, MD, FACMT and Charles McKay, MD, FACMT
  2. ED Pitfalls: Legal Concerns in the Care of Inebriated Patients Lewis S. Nelson, MD, FACMT and Paul Wax, MD FACMT
  3. Redistribution and Other Challenging Interpretive Issues in Postmortem Toxicology Faculty