

Q&A

- **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services:** Is there any difference in discrete versus concrete sampling for this type of evaluation? We have a workgroup to figure out which types of sampling to use for different compounds. I would like to know what the method detection limit is, and if there is any variation in the results.
 - **Stuart Willison:** With respect to composite sampling, I think it might be a good idea. But this research was looking at a localized surface. What the data suggest is that these compounds are so sensitive that you may not need composite sampling. Composite sampling is an important factor, but you might not need to use it. If you compared different sampling types, I am not sure what the variation would be.
- **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services:** Is there any timeline for when you might apply this research, like the surface wipe sampling, in the field?
 - **Stuart Willison:** That is a great question. There is an effort for us to look at this laboratory research and transfer it to a field application. That effort is ongoing, and we hope to start in January or February.
- **New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene:** Is there a difference in using cotton gauze versus plastic swabs?
 - **Stuart Willison:** Typically for chemicals, we use cotton gauze. They are commonly used in the field, and very absorbent. We could use others though.
- **U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command:** I am curious about your method of deposition of the opioid compounds on the surface.
 - **Stuart Willison:** The materials that I can have at the laboratory do not include powders. The compounds are in solution. I let the samples dry for an hour on the surface first.
- **Attendee:** I am curious about the run times and costs associated with this kind of sampling.
 - **Stuart Willison:** I think that you can get faster run times with certain samples. You can get about 40 samples per day in an 8-hour time period, but it is possible to do it faster.