Analytical Chemistry in Forensic Chemistry and Toxicology at the Institute of Legal Medicine Basel (IRM Basel)

Götz Schlotterbeck

Head Department Forensic Chemistry and Toxicology, Institute of Forensic Medicine, University of Basel goetz.schlotterbeck@bs.ch

The Institute of Forensic Medicine (IRM), with its three specialised departments of Forensic Chemistry and Toxicology, Forensic Genetics and Forensic Medicine and Traffic Medicine, offers its clients from the fields of law enforcement a comprehensive range of forensic-medical and scientific-criminalistic services. Forensic toxicological analyses for drugs, alcohol and medication are carried out on deceased persons, persons involved in bodily injury offences, road users and persons for whom a fitness to drive assessment has been ordered. Forensic chemical analyses of narcotics provide information on the purity and active ingredient content of illegal seized drugs.

At IRM Basel in the department of Forensic Chemistry and Toxicology we focus on research on synthetic cannabinoids, target and non-targeted analytical method development and perform studies to support legislative bodies. With our drug checking service we provide analytical support to increase safety for consumers of recreational drugs. Results of selected research projects, examples of forensic chemistry and forensic toxicology case work and drug checking services will be presented.