Switzerland, Canton of Fribourg, Office of public health



Securing the narcotic supply chain in Switzerland

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Healthcare Conference, Geneva, 22nd of June 2010









Gruyères

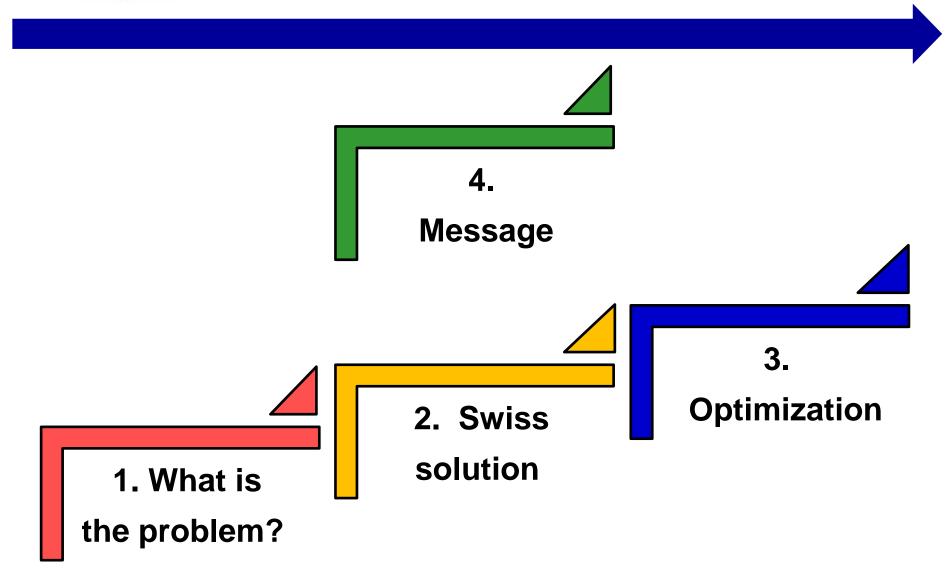






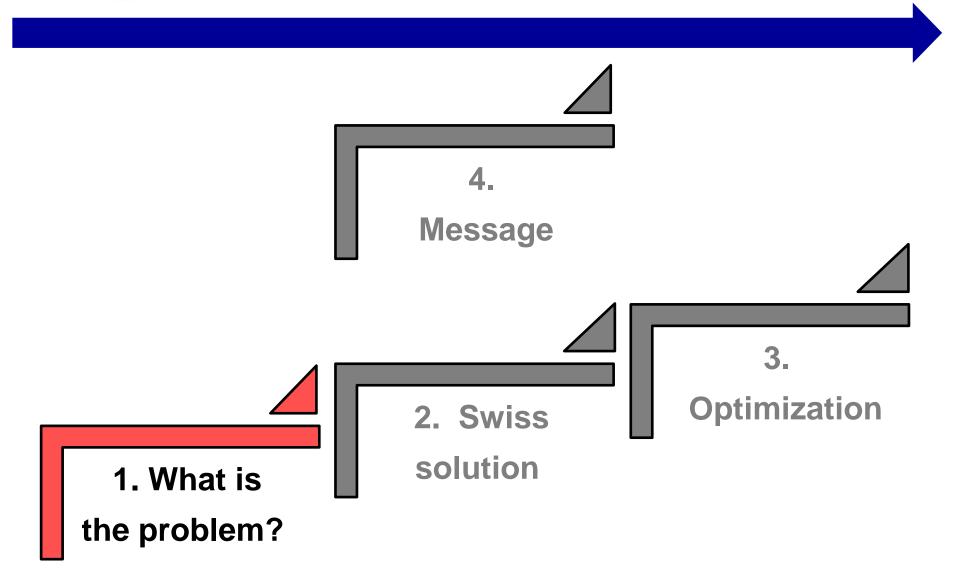


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1. What is the problem?

What product?



- No good definition of "narcotics" or "psychotropic substances"
- Lists of substances like morphine, cocaine, cannabis, stimulants, synthetic drugs and tranquillizers
- Medical use (pain, cough, diarrhoea, stimulants, tranquillizers, nervous system)
- ... but not only! misuse

1. What is the problem?

What serious negative facts?



- Fast dependence
- Mostly psychological troubles
- Mostly social difficulties
- Frequently dose increasing
- Combination of drugs (alcohol, ...)

1. What is the problem?







Many people concerned!

1. What is the problem?





- 1. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961
- 2. Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971
- 3. Convention on Precursors, 1988

1. What is the problem?



Based on the three Conventions,

National Laws and Regulations

to control the use of these substances:

- for medical purposes **OK**
- for misuse KO

1. What is the problem?



INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

Annual Report

Press Release No. 4 page 11

24 February 2010,

INCB: URGENT ACTION IS NEEDED AGAINST THE GROWING PROBLEM OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

1. What is the problem?

Summary point 1

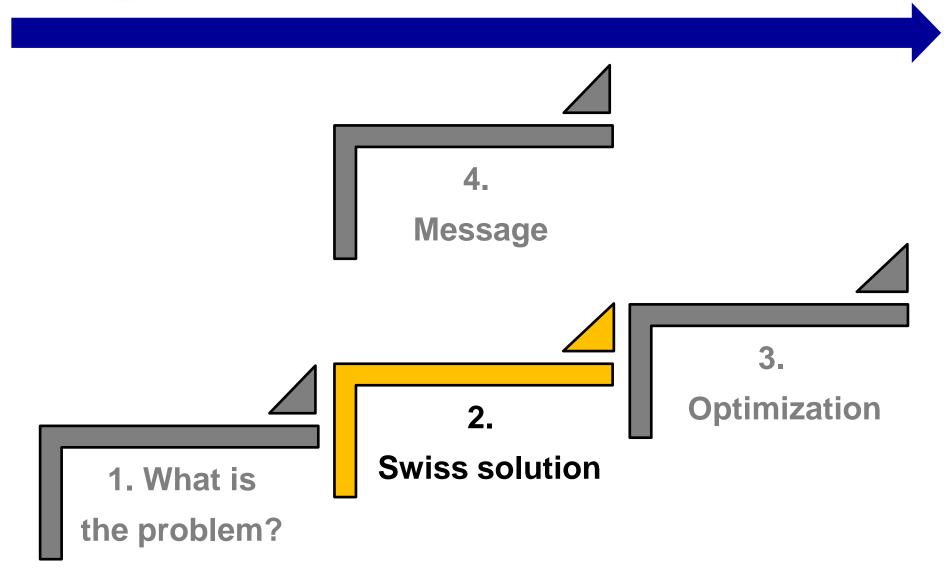
Authorities need an efficient control system

to fight against misuse

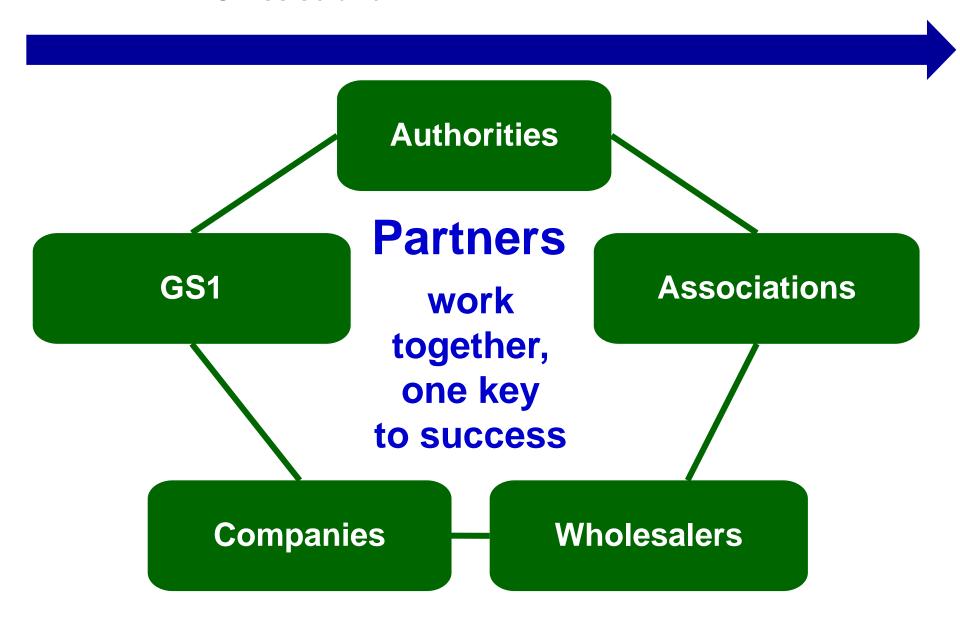
of narcotic and psychotropic substances



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2. Swiss solution

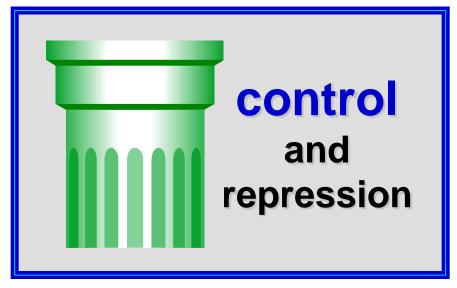


Since 1991, the fourfold approach

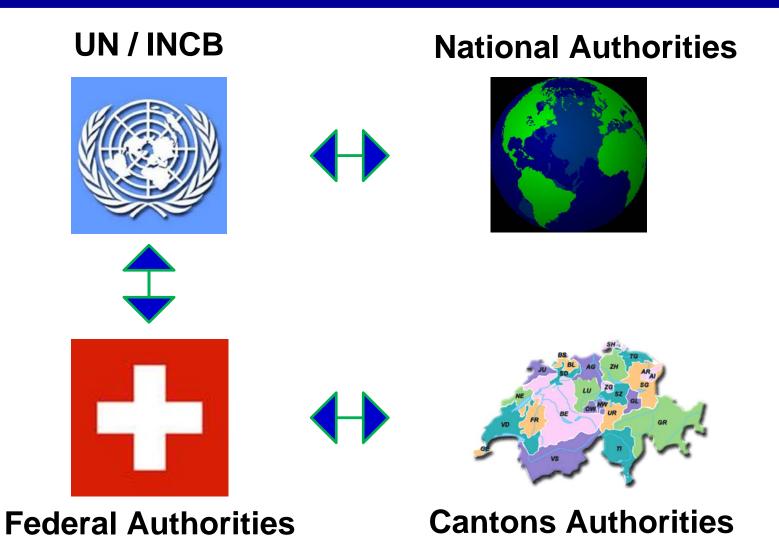




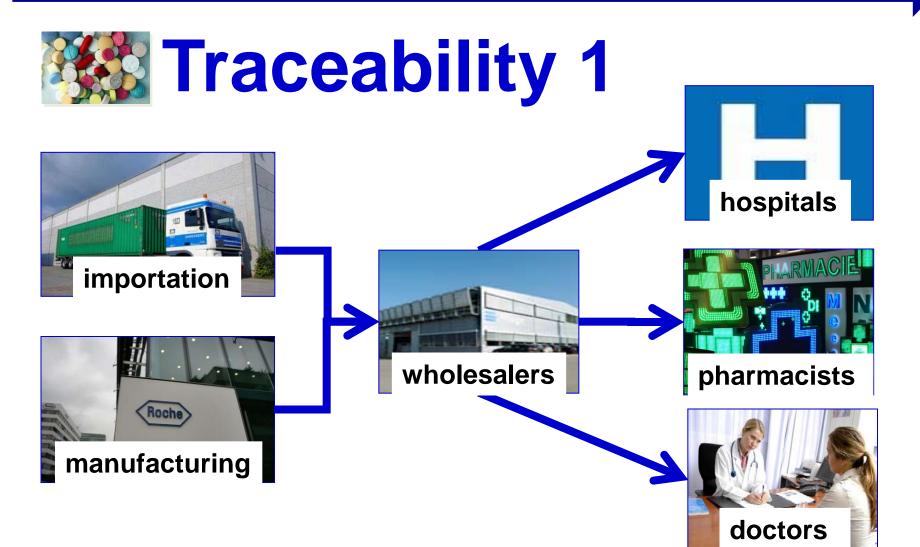




2. Swiss solution



2. Swiss solution



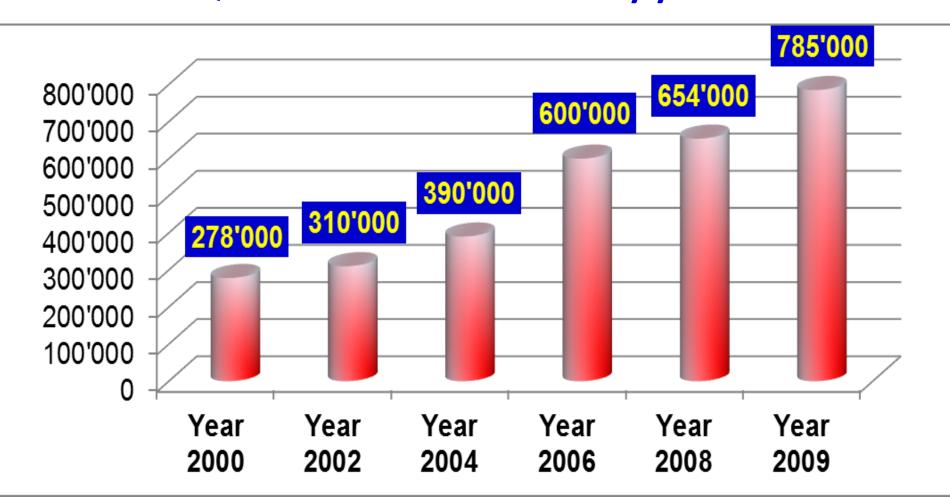
2. Swiss solution

Traceability 1: how?

- ✓ each transaction is subject to notification to the control authorities
- √ for each notification
 - supplier name
 - recipient name
 - product name
 - date of delivery
 - quantity of product delivery

2. Swiss solution

Quantities of notifications by year



2. Swiss solution



Traceability 2







2. Swiss solution

Traceability 2

- ✓ each narcotic delivery to patients is documented
 - patient name
 - narcotic name
 - quantity
 - dosing
 - delivery date

√ each delivery could be checked by control authorities

Traceability 1

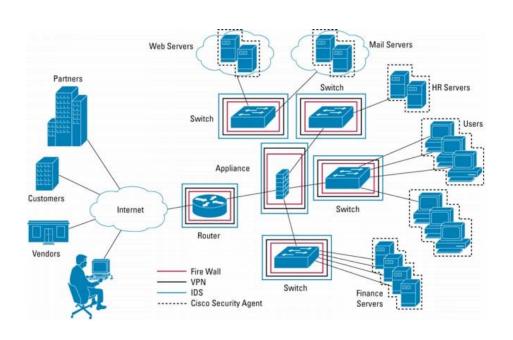
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1 Exemplar ist der Sendung beizulegen.		1 exemplaire doit être joint à l'envoi.	1 esemplare dev'essere aggiunto alla merce.	
2 Exemplare sind dem Bundesamt für Gesundheitswesen wie folgt zuzustellen: Handelsfirmen am 1. und 16. des Monats		2 exemplaires doivent être envoyés ainsi à l'Office fédéral de la santé publique : maisons de commerce le ler et le 16 du mois	2 esemplari devono essere mand all'Ufficio federale della sanità pubblica come segue: ditte commerciali il 1º e il 16 del mese	
Apotheker am 1. des Monats		pharmaciens e ler du mois	farmacisti il 1° del mese	
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Notifications

initially

... only in paper form!

Traceability 1

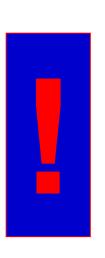


Notifications

currently

... almost exclusively in electronic form

2. Swiss solution



Most importantly for the notification system

- 1. standardized product identification
- 2. standardized partners identification

- GTIN (Global Trade Item Number) each drug and psychotropic substance is identified by a GTIN
- GLN (Global Location Number)
 each partner (industry, company, wholesaler,
 hospital, pharmacy, doctor) has a GLN



2. Swiss solution

Ideal solution for data processing

For each notification, only numbers



2010.06.22



50 (for example)

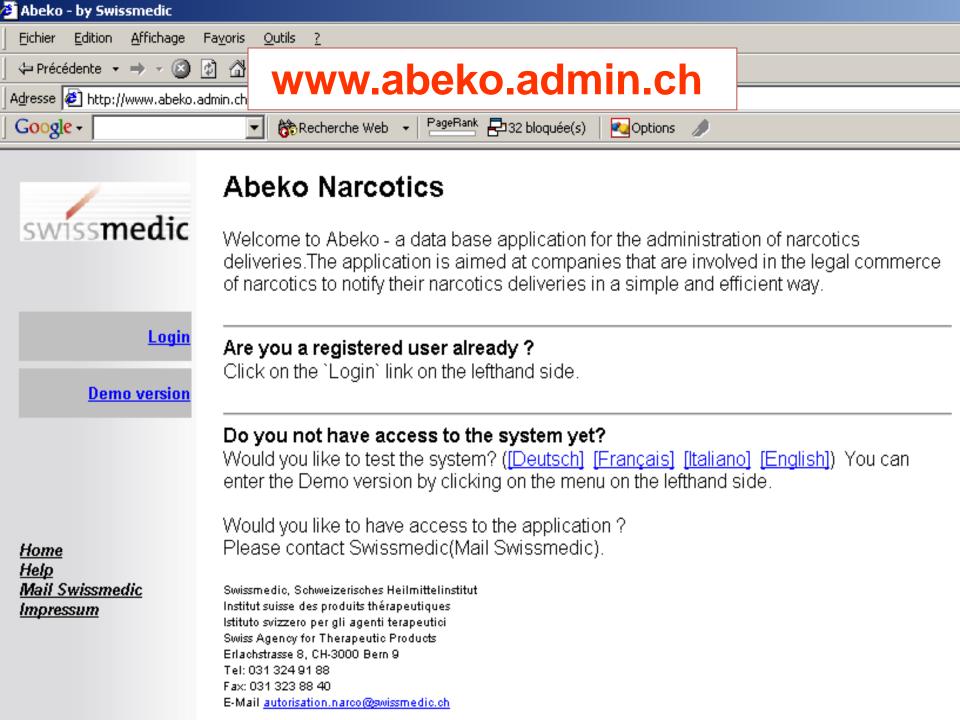
- 1. GLN of supplier
- 2. GLN of recipient
- 3. delivery date
- 4. GTIN of narcotic
- 5. quantity supplied

Results

- 1. At first, it was difficult to introduce the GLN for doctors
- 2. Now the system works perfectly well
 - ✓ authorities have an effective system to control the use of drugs
 - ✓ statistical data are available
 - √ detection of abuses is possible

Results: detection of ...

- increase in prescribing of stimulants for children (methylphenidate)
- patients who obtain prescriptions from several doctors
- prescription of high doses
- false prescriptions
- ...



Summary point 2

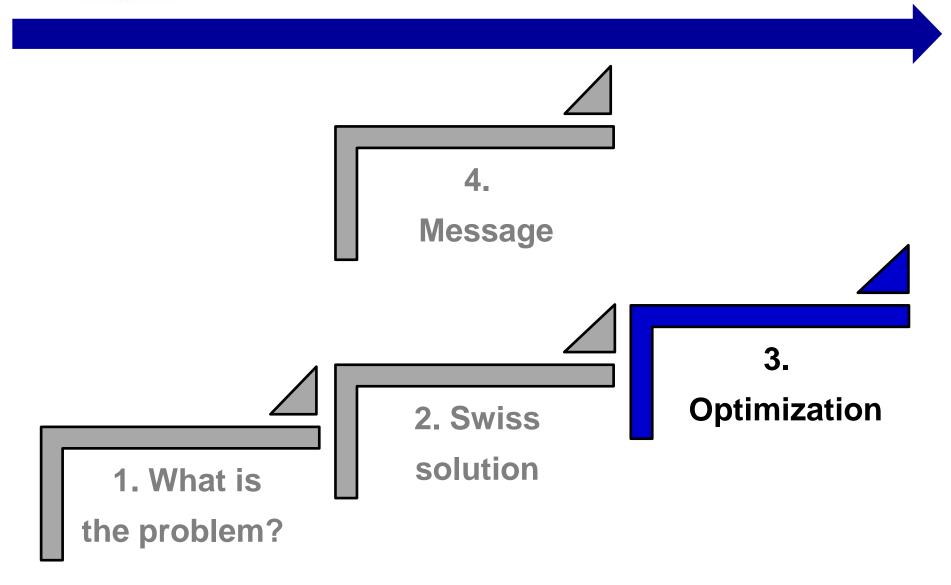
Authorities use a fully computerized system.

Traceability of the use of narcotics is possible

Decision to use the GTIN and GLN
was most important
to contribute to the successful implementation
of this system



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3. Optimization



Notification system so far works only for narcotics.

It must now be extended to control the use of psychotropic substances

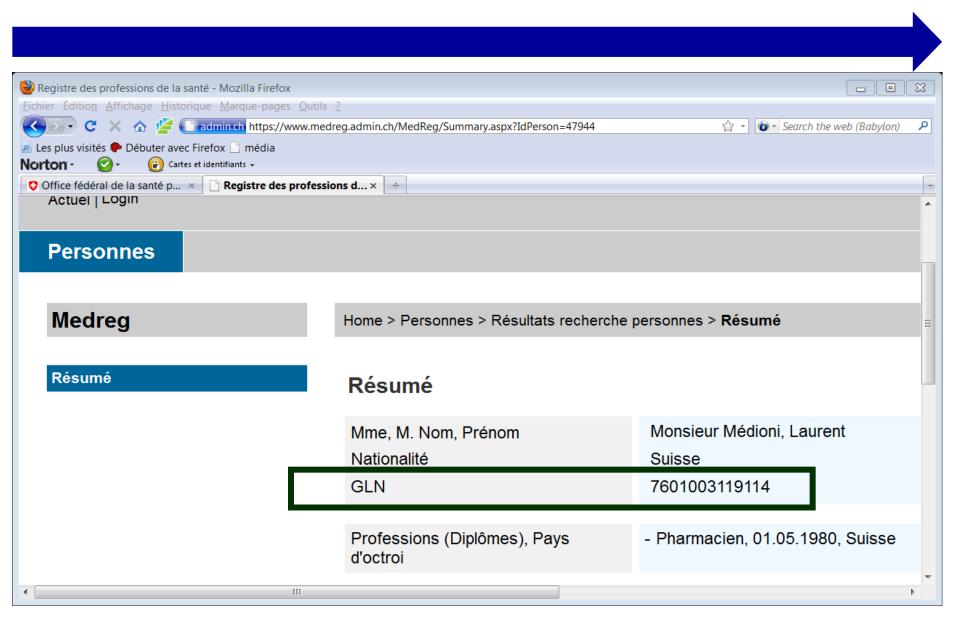
must be implemented

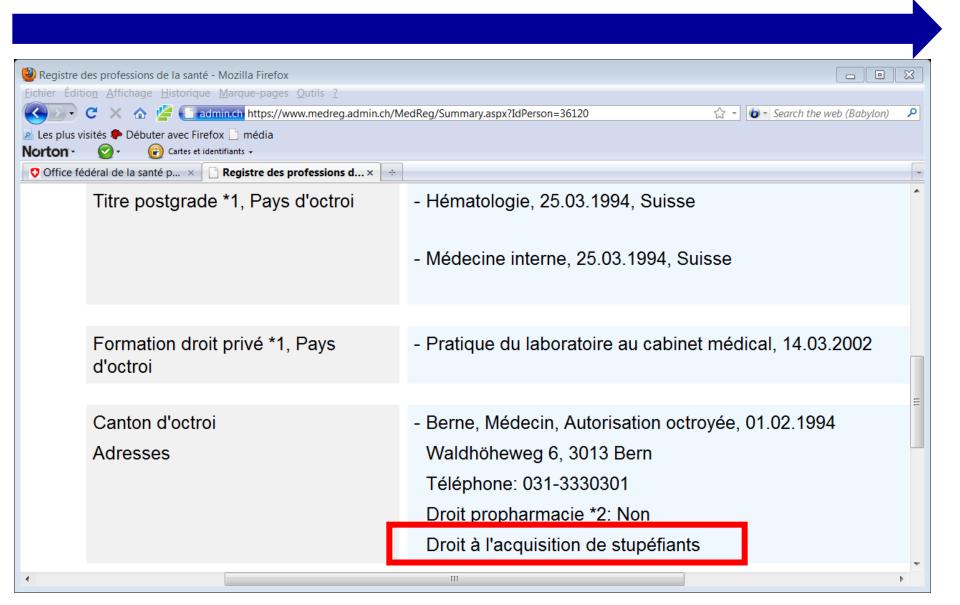


Publication of persons authorized by authorities to use narcotics for professional use

www.medreg.admin.ch
(Register of Professional
Medical University)

is implemented







Publication of companies authorized by authorities to use narcotics for professional use

is being implemented



Expand the notification system by inclusion of batch numbers of narcotics and their expiry dates to improve traceability

should be implemented

3. Optimization



Electronic prescription to reduce errors, improve the management of medical records and make counterfeit prescriptions difficult

Already possible in some hospitals, but almost not in medical practices

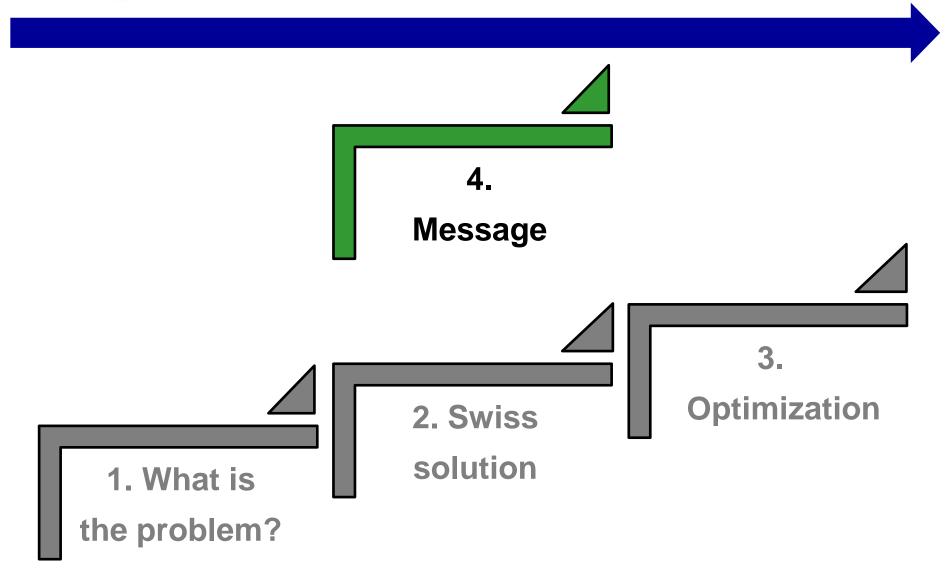
Summary point 3

The Swiss solution has already been optimized since its introduction, but there are still many valuable opportunities to do even better

(notification of deliveries of psychotropic substances in particular, and expansion of recorded data to ensure traceability)



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Securing the narcotic supply chain in Switzerland 4. Message

- Securing the supply chain is an element of the strategy to fight against narcotic abuse
- Swiss control system is efficient, even if it does not solve the abuse problem

Securing the narcotic supply chain in Switzerland 4. Message

- To enable traceability, identification standards are essential.
- GS1 standards are not designed to allow monitoring of the use of narcotics, but they use has helped make it possible.
- After years of experience, it is possible to conclude that the choice of these standards by Swiss authorities has been an excellent decision.

Securing the narcotic supply chain in Switzerland 4. Message

This presentation aimed to show that rather than recreate the wheel, it is advantageous to use a smart existing system, such as that of GS1

Could you help to spread this idea?





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Thank you for your attention