

The Role and Applicability of Narco Analysis Test in Criminal Investigations and Trials in India :Impact and Criticism

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Abstract- ‘Narco Analysis Test’ is a method which is used by police and investigation teams to find the truth from suspect who is suspected in an offence. A drug called **sodium pentothal** (truth serum) is injected into the person to conduct this test. This drug makes the person sleepy or puts them in dreamy state of mind. Person becomes less alert and stops thinking carefully before speaking. They may start talking more openly and truthfully because of the serum. Investigators inquire and ask questions in this condition hoping and willing to get honest answers. This method is used as an option instead of using force or torture. This behavior of speaking freely starts happening when the person becomes less inhibited and enters a complete hypnotic state. This stage allows examiners or investigative authorities to ask questions and get real and true answers.

Key-words- Narco Analysis, Sodium pentothal, Truth serum, Investigators, Hypnotic

Introduction- There are several scientific name of narco analysis test like “truth serum” “sodium amytal interview”, “forensic psychotherapy”, “pharmacological interrogation” or “drug-assisted interrogation. It is used to investigate criminal and to receive information from a suspect person by administering specific drugs such as sodium thiopental or sodium amytal or scopolamine or propofol or midazolam among others.

It process involves a controlled dose and a controlled dose of truth serum induces deep relaxation, semi consciousness, lowering inhibitions and increasing suggestibility to suspect. This dose impact on mind and semi consciousness state makes it easier for the subject to reveal memories and information which they might be unwilling or unable to disclose in conscious state. Questions ask by the investigator to the suspect in the influence of drugs. It will helpful to see suppressed details or hidden memories regarding a crime providing important leads for the investigation.

Narco analysis test and correlation with other test- DDTs stands for Deception Detection Tests. It includes test like narco analysis, polygraph and brain mapping. These have clinical, scientific, ethical and legal implications. DDTs are beneficial to know the concealed information related to any offence. The information that only the person knows play a vital role in a criminal investigation and investigators often use DDTs (certain brain-based tests). Investigator knows that information cannot be used as proof in court. However, they believe it's a safer method compared to using force or harsh questioning (often called "third-degree methods").

Narco Analysis Test- This is a forensic psychological technique in which suspect person is injected with a sedative drug, commonly sodium pentothal, induce a hypnotic or semi-conscious state. Person’s ability to lie or withhold information is reduced and they may reveal truthful responses to questions in this state.

- Narco test is generally done by a team of “an anesthesiologist, a psychiatrist, a clinical/forensic psychologist, an audio/videographer and supporting nursing staff.”
- The team monitors the subject’s pulse rate and blood pressure throughout the session and the entire procedure is documented for the record.
- The subject will be injected with the hypnotic drug Sodium Pentothal by the intravenous method. The dose depends on the subject’s age, sex, and other medical conditions.
- The subject feels sleepy after the drug is injected,
- The investigation team starts asking questions when the person starts to fumble their words. This is a semi-consciousness state of injected person.

Polygraph Test (Lie Detector Test)- The concept of using physiological responses for lie detection in later 19th century. John A. Larson created the first polygraph in 1921 to record continuous changes in heart rate, pulse and breathing for use in law enforcement. The polygraph test was introduced by “Robert House” of the United State in 1921.

It measures physiological responses like blood pressure, nerve pulse, breathing rate and skin conductivity. A person answers questions with this assumption that lying triggers distinct physiological reactions. It is an indicator of stress, anxiety or fear but it is not enough to detect lie directly. The result is often inadmissible as evidence in court. The process involves attaching sensors to the body, asking a mix of control and relevant questions related to a specific issue to analyze for deceptive reactions.

The suspect is given calming (sedative) drugs and then asked questions by an expert. The suspect cannot lie or think clearly to make up stories due to effect of drug. Devices are connected to the person's body to record various physiological signals. These typically include-

Questioning Techniques- The examiner asks a series of questions including-

- **Control Questions**- This part of questions includes about the subject's general past or behavior. It designed to elicit anxiety in an innocent person.
- **Relevant Questions**- This part of questionnaire includes the direct questions pertaining to the particular event or issue being investigated.

Data Interpretation- The polygraph machine records all the physiological responses to each question of subject. The examiner analyzes this data to identify patterns where the responses to relevant questions significantly different from those to control questions, suggesting deception.

Accuracy and Admissibility- The test rely on involuntary physiological responses makes it an indicator of stress rather than a direct lie detector. In India, it is not admissible because of questionable accuracy and potential for inaccuracy is the reason.

Differences between narco analysis test and polygraph test

Difference grounds	Narco analysis test	Polygraph test
(1) Purpose	It elicits truthful information from the accused.	It detects signs of deception or lying.
(2) Method	Injecting a sedative drug (sodium pentothal)	Monitoring physiological responses
(3) Mind status	Accused feels in a hypnotic or sedated state of mind.	In this test accused remains conscious and alert.
(4) Ability to Lie	Accused is believed to be unable to lie in this test.	It Relies on detecting physiological responses.
(5) Admissibility and Legal Aspect	It Results can lead to the “discovery of valid evidence”.	It results not considered evidence or confession.
(6) Consent	Consent Requires the consent of the accused	Consent may vary based on jurisdiction
(7) Monitoring	It can be monitored by the Supreme Court or authority.	It conducted by trained polygraph examiners.

Brain mapping Test (P300 Waves Test)- Brain mapping measures the changes in brain's by electric activity by using small sensors placed on the head and face. These changes appear when the brain reacts to certain sights, sounds or thoughts. The brain shows a special pattern when it recognizes something familiar and this is called an **event-related potential** and known as the **P300 Waves test** in India.

The person sees or hears things like pictures, videos, or sounds during the test. Some of these are connected to what is being investigated while others are not. The ones related to the investigation are called "**material probes**" and the unrelated ones are called "**neutral probes**."

When a guilty person sees or hears something related to the crime their brain gives off a signal called a **P300 wave**. This signal is recorded by the machine. The examiner can tell if the person recognizes incident information by looking at these brain signals. This test only checks if the person remembers something about the crime.

For instance- A person saw a murder happen (a bystander) could wrongly be seen as a suspect if the test shows they know details of the crime. It is not clear how seeing crime scenes in TV shows, movies or newspapers might affect brain mapping results. The test cannot be used to punish someone in court but an innocent person can use it to prove they did not do the crime. **(as an alibi- section 11 of Indian Evidence Act, 1872/ section 9 of Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023)**

Beep Test- It is a cardio vascular fitness assessment. Beep test has no relation to a narco test which is conducted on a suspect to extract information in a semi-conscious state. It's a test of aerobic fitness and also known as the shuttle run test. Participants run between two markers in time with beeps, stopping and starting repeatedly. The Supreme Court ruled in the Selvi case that any involuntary or forced narco analysis is unconstitutional and not admissible as evidence. Though results from a voluntarily administered test **can be used to discover physical evidence.**

Legal Provision and Legal Consideration of Narco Test- The use of “truth serum” started in forensic science in the end of 19th century when a medical practitioner in the USA used hypnosis to relax his patients and then help them by discussing emotionally difficult matters. **In India, it was first used in 2002 in the Godhra train historical case in Gujarat.**

The UN definition of torture has four components-

- The torture produces physical or mental suffering and degrading treatment.
- The infliction is always intentional.
- A certain purpose always there behind the infliction of torture, for example, for getting information, confession, etc.
- It is imposed by a person acting officially or on his behalf.

Constitution of India- There are two indirect provisions to read narco analysis under constitutional provision, which are given below-

Right against self-incrimination- Article 20(3) states “No one charged with a crime may be forced to testify against themselves.” It violates Article 20 (3) as the “**modus operandi**” of test depends upon administration of drugs. It suppresses the reasoning power without affecting memory and speech. This test is against the Latin maxim “**Nomo Tenetur se Ipsum Accusare**” which means that no one can compel to answer the question including accused. It tends to prove suspect as a guilty of a crime. The court may reject if the conclusion from the accused is derived from any compulsion, hypnotic state or the trance-state of mind.

Right to life and personal liberty (Article 21)- “No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law”.

Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (section 27) and Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (section 23)- This Act is the primary statutory act for the admissibility of an evidence in any court across the country silent in respect to narco analysis. Section 27- “Any information that is subsequently discovered and voluntarily administered test results can be admitted as evidence.”

Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (section 161) and Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (section 180)- The “right against self-incrimination” is guaranteed under CrPC, 1973 as well. The legislature has protected an individual’s right against self-incrimination.

Section 161(2) - "Everyone has to answer all questions asked by a police officer truthfully except if answering the question could get them into trouble like being charged with a crime or facing a penalty or loss."

The law states that no man can incriminate himself. The scientific proof of narco analysis may not acceptable in court. The outcomes are not always accepted after completion of test. A person cannot make to testify against themselves.

Mr. Abdul Karim Telgi Vs State of Karnataka¹ (Fake stamp paper scam)-There is no

indefeasible right to demand narco test. Whether an accused can demand such a test, the Court clarified that while a person may volunteer for a narco analysis test in defense evidence (under Section 233 Criminal Procedure Code), there is no absolute right to such testing. The court concerned must evaluate the voluntariness, safeguards and overall context before permitting it who is underwent testing for narco analysis and brain mapping. Mr. Telgi's bogus stamp paper scam made a sensation on a national level which involved prominent individuals. Mr. Telgi made money by printing stamp papers violating the law with the machines he obtained illegally. The **Special Investigation Team** produced the result of their test. Telgi's attorney claimed this evidence violated Article 20 (3) and Article 21.

The consent regarding narco analysis- Section 53 (1) of CrPC, 1973 provides the use of reasonable force by medical practitioner at the request of an investigating officer for ascertaining the facts or to collect evidence. In Telgi's case, with a counter argument the SIT had told the court that the findings would be utilized as a tool for investigation rather than as proof. Justice can receive from treating patients fairly to distributing resources fairly in forensic medicine.

The use of narco analysis raises several ethical concerns related to consent, reliability, beneficence, non-maleficence and individual rights. Suspect under narco analysis may not be aware of the potential risks and consequences. This lack of autonomy and self-determination challenges the principle of respect for persons.

The induced state may lead to confabulation or the unintentional fabrication of memories, raising doubts about the accuracy, reliability and validity of the information obtained. This raise ethical concern about the potential for false or misleading information to influence legal proceedings and use of drugs to alter an individual's mental state without therapeutic intent raises questions about the lack of beneficence and possible non-maleficence.

The risk associated with the administration of such drug including adverse reactions or psychological harm which must be carefully weighed against any anticipated benefits through obtaining information. There are broader societal implications regarding privacy and the right to avoid self-incrimination. Raising concern about the violation of an individual's privacy and their right to refrain from providing self-incriminating evidence which are fundamental principles in legal and ethical frameworks.

National Human Rights Commission Guidelines, 2000- NHRC published guidelines in 2000 which are given below-

- **Voluntary consent-** The accused must voluntarily consent to the polygraph test and have the option to refuse the test.
- **Informed consent-** The accused should have completed information about its purpose before giving consent for the procedure and legal implications. This information should be provided by police and lawyer.
- **Recorded Consent-** The consent shall record before the judicial magistrate.
- **Documents-** The police must show proof in court that the suspect agreed to take a lie detector test. The lawyer will give these papers to the judge.
- **Clarification of statements-** The accused need to know that words during a lie detector test is treated as a statement to the police but not as a confession.

¹ S.C. 9 of 2001

- **Judicial Considerations-** The judge will consider factors at the time period of custody and interrogation of the accused before the result of polygraph test.

Role of Indian Judiciary- The use of scientific methods like **truth serum, lie detector** and **brain mapping** has caused a lot of legal and ethical debate in India's criminal justice system In recent years. These methods are shown as ways to discover hidden truths. It causes serious concerns about a person's **freedom**, control over their own body **and the** right not to give forced statements. It was first used in **1922** in the U.S., where two prisoners from Dallas were questioned under the influence of a drug called **scopolamine**. They denied being under the drug's effect, but were still found guilty in court. Experts said that a person **cannot lie** after this drug but also **cannot think or reason properly**. Few countries have stopped using drugs like **scopolamine, sodium amytal** and **sodium pentothal** in such tests but India still uses narco analysis. Indian courts have allowed these tests without fully considering the risks and dangers involved.

Narco analysis was first used in **2002** by the **Bangalore Forensic Science Laboratory** on seven suspects in the **Godhra incident** in India,. Since then, it has used in several cases like the **Hyderabad bomb blasts, Abu Salem case, Telgi scam** and the **Nithari killings**.

It has used against **activists** like **Arun Ferreira, Ashok Reddy, Naresh Bansod, and Dhanendra Bhurle**, who were arrested under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act**. Narco tests were also used during the investigation of the **Aarushi murder case**.

State of Bombay Vs Kathi Kalu Oghad²- The SC stated that if accused person gives information which is not received from their personal knowledge, then it cannot be considered self-incrimination. It also said that the narco analysis test (a test where drugs are used to make someone speak the truth) is not self-incriminating.

How can the information given during a narco test not be based on the accused's personal knowledge? After all, whatever the person says during the test is coming from their own mind. That means the things they say were already in their memory. And personal knowledge comes from a person's own mind. So anyone cannot deny that accused knowledge is wrong. If the person is speaking with their own mouth, even under the influence of drugs, it still comes from their own mind. So how can we say the narco test is not self-incriminating?

D.K. Basu Vs State of West Bengal³- The SC stated that administering the polygraph and narco test against the consent would constitute cruel, inhuman and humiliating treatment under Article 21 which protects "the right to life and liberty."

Dinesh Dalmia Vs State of Madras⁴- The Madras HC concluded that if an accused person is made to undergo a scientific test, like narco analysis, it does not mean his right to remain silent is being forcibly taken away. The Court said narco analysis is not the same as forcing someone to speak.

The Court explained that even if the accused is taken to the lab for the test without his consent, he still has the freedom to speak or not speak during the test meaning, whatever he says is said voluntarily.

Selvi Vs State of Karnataka⁵- Accused questioned whether using certain scientific methods for questioning in criminal cases is allowed under the Constitution. The Court said that tests like truth serum, lie detector and BEAP (Brain Mapping) cannot be done on an accused person under Sections 53, 53-A and 54 of the CrPC, 1973. Though conducting of certain medical tests on accused is permissible under Explanation (a) to Section 53, 53-A and 54 CrPC, yet truth serum, lie detector & BEAP tests are not included in those tests.

² AIR 1961 SC 1808

³ (1997 (1) SCC 416)

⁴ Cr. LJ 2006 Para 14 & 17

⁵ (2010) 7 SCC 263

The methods truth serum, lie detector and Brain Fingerprinting were discussed in court. The petitioners said that these techniques are a softer option compared to police using third degree method during investigation. They argued that using these tests goes against the right not to give forced statements which is protected under Article 20 (3) of the Constitution.

A bench of three judges of SC agreed that these tests are a form of forced testimony and not allowed under Article 20 (3). The Court also gave some important guidelines regarding these tests-

- **Lie detector or narco tests should only be done if the accused agrees.** The person should be given a choice to say yes or no.
- **This consent must be recorded by a judge (Judicial Magistrate).**
- **The accused must have a lawyer** present when giving consent in front of the judge.
- **The judge must clearly tell the person** that whatever they say during the test will not be treated as a formal confession in court.
- **The judge must consider how long the person has been in custody** and what kind of questioning has happened before giving permission for the test.
- **A full record, including medical and factual details,** of how the information was obtained during the test must be kept.
- **The SC said clearly that lie detector tests cannot be done without the person's permission.**
- They must be **informed of all the possible effects** physical, mental and legal.
- **The rules made by NHRC in 2000** about lie detector tests **must be strictly followed.**
- According to these rules, **narco tests cannot be forced,** and the **person's consent must be taken in front of a judge.**
- **Forcing someone to reveal their thoughts** without their permission **violates their dignity and freedom.** The court said this goes against the **right against self-incrimination** (Article 20(3)).
- if the person **voluntarily agrees** to the test and it leads to **new evidence,** that evidence can be used in court under **Section 27 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.**
- The court also said that the **results of narco tests are not confessions,** but if the information leads to other **real proof,** then it can help in the investigation.
- It is important **follow the legal process,** and **respect the person's rights and dignity** when doing narco tests.

Rajesh Talwar Vs C.B.I. and others⁶- Later, in 2013, SC rejected a request to use the narco test reports in the Aarushi Talwar case. The Court said that plea was just a way to delay the trial. The investigation teams had done Narco Analysis, Polygraph (lie detector) and Brain Mapping tests on Rajesh Talwar and others. They were not agree to take the tests. However, the truth serum helped solve the case and played an important role in identifying the suspects.

Sister Abhaya's Death Case (2020)⁷- Sister Abhaya went missing early in the morning on 27 March 1992. She had woken up at 4:00 am to study for her exams and was last seen going to the kitchen to get some water. Later, the fridge was found open and water was spilled on the floor. One of her slippers was under the fridge and other slipper was found near the well inside the convent hostel.

Her body found in that well a few hours later. The police at Kottayam West Police Station first treated the case as an unnatural death. The fire department pulled her body out of the well around 10:00 am and an investigation report was made. A post mortem was done by Dr. Radhakrishnan and found injuries on her shoulder, hip and two small cuts above her ear. There was no sign of sexual assault.

Over the years, the case went through many investigations by different agencies. These investigations were messy and slow, with many conflicts, rivalries, and even claims of corruption. There was pressure to close the

⁶ 2012 (4) SCC 217

⁷ NDTV.com. Retrieved 22 December 2020.

case quickly. In April 1992, the Crime Branch took over the case and later said that Sister Abhaya had died by suicide but there were accusations that they destroyed important evidence that could have shown it was a murder.

Forensic experts Dr. S.K. Pathak, Dr. Mahesh Verma and Dr. S.R. Singh did test in April 1995. They used dummy experiments and concluded that Sister Abhaya was murdered. No arrests were made until November 2008. Finally, CBI arrested two priests Thomas Kottoor and Jose Puthurukkayil and a nun Sister Sephy on 19 November 2008 after many years of failed investigations. They were released on bail in January 2009.

All three were officially charged for murder, destroying evidence and defaming the victim on 17 July 2009. The prosecutor said that Sister Abhaya had accidentally seen the two priests and the nun in inappropriate situation in private. They attacked her with an axe and threw her body into the well to hide this thing from others.

A special CBI court found Fr. Kottoor and Sister Sephy guilty of murdering Sister Abhaya after 28 years on 22 December 2020.

Satyama Dubey Vs Union Of India (Hathras Case)⁸- In this case, the state government of Uttar Pradesh conducted the polygraph and narco-analysis tests as a part of the ongoing investigation into the alleged gang rape and murder of a 19 year old girl.

Vinobhai Vs State of Kerala⁹ and **Manoj Kumar Soni Vs State of M.P.**¹⁰- In these cases, the Court held that although disclosure statements hold significance as a contributing factor in unbridling a case, they are not so strong a piece of evidence sufficient on its own and without anything more to bring home the charges beyond reasonable doubt. The Court clarified that only those facts discovered post-test, corroborated through Section 27 of the Evidence Act, 1872, may have evidentiary value and even then, cannot stand alone to prove guilt. The Court held that even when narco analysis tests are administered voluntarily, their results cannot form the sole basis of conviction. Conclusively, Voluntary narco analysis reports cannot alone establish guilt.

Amlesh Kumar Vs State of Bihar¹¹ The main legal question before the Supreme Court was whether the HC was right in allowing the investigating officer to conduct narco-analysis tests on the accused without their consent, while a bail application (under Section 439 of the CrPC) was still being heard. This issue had to be looked at in light of the rights given under Article 20(3) (right against self-incrimination) and Article 21 (right to life and personal liberty) of the Constitution, along with the important judgment in **Selvi vs State of Karnataka**. Three main questions were considered-

1. Could the High Court legally allow the investigating officer to do narco-analysis tests on all accused persons while the bail application was still pending?
2. Can a voluntary narco-analysis test be the only proof to convict someone if there's no other evidence?
3. Whether accused person have the right to demand a narco-analysis test voluntarily?

These questions were asked to decide whether using narco-analysis in criminal cases is legally and constitutionally allowed, especially considering the rights under Articles 20(3) and 21.

The Supreme Court ruled that the **HC made a mistake** by allowing the investigating officer to conduct narco-analysis tests during the bail hearing. This decision was **unconstitutional** and went against the judgment in **Selvi vs State of Karnataka (2010)**, which clearly said that **forcing someone to undergo narco-analysis** is a **violation of their rights** under Articles 20(3) and 21.

⁸ AIR 2020 Supreme Court 5346, AIR Online 2020 SC 792

⁹ 2025 SCC Online SC 178

¹⁰ 2023 SCC Online SC 984

¹¹ (2025 INSC 810)

Criticisms of Narco Analysis Test- Critics believe that narco tests may cause harm to the physical and mental health of the person. Some points are given and explained below-

- **To determine accurate dose-** There is no theory of injecting an accurate dose. To determine the drug based on a person's attitude or willpower is a difficult task. Thiopental sodium becomes dangerous if not administered in judicious amounts. It is very difficult to administer a certain fixed drug dosage to a person because the dose varies from person to person depending on the mental attitude and physical makeup of the condition. It is observed that administering the individual with the incorrect dose could result in his death.
- **Respiratory illness-** Narco test is particularly harmful to person respiratory illnesses like asthma since an improper dose. Administration of the substance could drastically reduce blood pressure and cease respiration.
- **Effect on the brain-** This test has an adverse effect on the functioning of the brain. It found that there comes a situation of memory loss after the subject was given a dose of 'truth serum'.
- **Narco analysis is not perfectly correct-** So it has also drawn wide criticism from medical practitioners, human rights activists and legal authorities.
- **False Information-** In many cases, it has been observed that an accused has provided false information even after the administration of the drug.
- **Unlawful interrogations-** With so many behavioral science consultation teams utilizing pseudoscience of narco synthesis to support unlawful interrogations. India is known as the global capital of narco analysis.

Dangerous side effects- It effects on the nervous system and it may lead to motion amnesia, emergence delirium, besides many other side effects. It can cause sudden and unexplained encircling of pressure where the air passage gets blocked. Drug dose can also cause nausea and headache.

The drug sodium pentothal was used as an anesthesia during the Second World War when an emergency occurred because of the famous Pearl Harbor attack. The injured persons were given sodium pentothal as an anesthetic agent in order to provide surgical care. But unfortunately thousands of people were died because of the over dose of this drug. The information was not made public. But in 1990s the freedom of information legislation came into the scene which helped the people to get the information out.

- **Dubious scientific value-** It's not always possible to know the exact amount of drug to give during a narco-analysis test. The right dose depends on the person's body type, mental strength, and attitude. If the wrong amount is given, the person could fall into a coma or even die. This can lead to legal problems. Sodium Pentothal, the drug often used in such tests, can have dangerous side effects.
- **Violates the constitutional right against self-incrimination-** Article 20(3) says that no person can be forced to speak or give evidence against themselves. This rule is called the "protection against self-incrimination." It is an important part of the British legal system and has also been adopted by the U.S. legal system and included in the U.S. Constitution.
- **Violation of right to fair trial-** In **Nandini Satpathi Vs P.L. Dani**¹², The Supreme Court said that "forced testimony" doesn't just mean using physical threats or violence. It also includes mental torture, pressure from the surroundings, long and tiring questioning, and threatening behavior. If an accused person's statement is recorded and then shared with the public, it can harm their right to a fair trial.
- **Narco analysis as torture-** Torture is not just about hurting someone physically – it can also harm them mentally. It involves methods that can completely break a person's spirit and weaken their body or mind. The side effects of narco-analysis, both on the mind and body, make it a form of

¹² 1978 Cri LJ 968 (SC)

torture. These tests don't stop the torture – they just replace physical torture with mental or psychological pressure.

- **Question over the evidentiary value-** It does not carry any evidentiary value.
- **Conclusion-** Narco analysis tests cannot be exploited to get statements or incriminating evidence due to their low dependability and lack of scientific evidence. Narco analysis can be effective in helping to resolve the tough situation as investigative tool. The government should establish prompt and effective guidelines regarding narco analysis for proper use, acceptance and effecting human dignity test along with to promote the use of scientific method for long drawn out investigation. It is true that narco analysis cannot be used as absolute conclusion and it should make legal choice on its own. Narco analysis should be confirmed with other independent evidence to show the trustworthiness, validity, confession or information obtained by narco analysis. Here, with other independent evidence means, any other physical evidence, witness account or forensic analysis. The entire narco analysis procedure (including drug administration, interviews, and monitoring) should be thoroughly documented and recorded. This paper work should secure to maintain record of the followed procedure and to enable future review, verification and potential challenges. Courts should conduct thorough scrutiny and evaluation before admitting narco analysis evidence in judicial processes. They should evaluate its scientific validity, ethical considerations, adherence to guidelines and the possibility of coercion or false information before weighing the weight and admissibility of narco analysis based evidence. It is advised that alternate approaches for gathering evidence and conducting interrogations be explored and used. The highlight is that these recommendations are not exhaustive and that additional study, expert engagement and ongoing review of narco analysis practices are required to address the concerns and improve its ethical and scientific underpinnings in criminal investigations.

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