

To: Elyse Greenwald
SAMHSA OMB Desk Officer

From: Summer King
SAMHSA Clearance Officer

Subject: SAMHSA Response to the American Kratom Association Comment

Date: October 25, 2018

The scope of the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) includes providing information on tobacco, alcohol, and drug use, mental health, and other health related issues in the United States. The concerns and warnings about kratom promulgated by the FDA over the past several weeks and months relate to other health related issues and as such, falls within the scope of NSDUH. There are no FDA-approved uses of kratom. No nationally representative prevalence data is available on kratom use. Without national data on the use of kratom (e.g. who uses kratom, whether they use other drugs, the extent to which they have an opioid or other substance use disorder, whether they are seeking or receiving treatment, and extent of comorbidity), the federal government is unable to make data informed recommendations. Understanding the prevalence of kratom use through NSDUH will allow further study as to the consequences of use.