

Drug Status Report

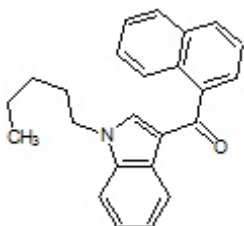
Drug: JWH-018

Drug Name Status: JWH-018 is the common name.

Other Names: 1-pentyl-3-(1-naphthoyl)indole

Chemical Name: Naphthalen-1-yl-(1-pentylindol-3-yl

Chemical structure:



Molecular Formula: C₂₄H₂₃NO

Pharmacological class / Application: cannabinoid receptor agonist

International status:

US: The substance is not currently listed on the schedules to the US Controlled Substances Act and is not mentioned on the DEA website.

United Nations: The substance is not listed on the Yellow List - List of Narcotic Drugs under International Control nor the Green List - List of Psychotropic Substances under International Control.

Canadian Status: JWH-018 is a synthetic cannabinoid^{1,2}. As a cannabinoid receptor agonist^{3,4} it

¹ Nalluri, BN et al. 15th Annual Symposium on the Cannabinoids (2005).

²

<http://www.wipo.int/pctdb/en/wo.jsp?wo=2007001891&IA=US2006023387&DISPLAY=DESC>

³ Huffman JW, Zengin G, Wu MJ, Lu J, Hynd G, Bushell K, Thompson AL, Bushell S, Tartal C, Hurst DP, Reggio PH, Selley DE, Cassidy MP, Wiley JL, Martin BR. *Bioorg Med Chem.* 2005 Jan 3;13(1):89-112.

⁴ Pertwee RG, Griffin G, Lainton JA, Huffman JW. *Eur J Pharmacol.* 1995 Sep 25;284(3):241-7.

is considered to be included in item 1 of Schedule II to the CDSA. Status decisions have been made on several other cannabinoid receptor agonists and antagonists. See decisions for anandamide; methanandamide; WIN 555212; JWH 015; O-2050, CP55940, AM630, AM251 and SR 141716A. Cannabinoid receptor agonists have been declared to be included within item 1 of Schedule II to the CDSA by virtue of being “similar synthetic preparations.” Cannabinoid receptor antagonists have been declared to fall outside item 1 of Schedule II to the CDSA.

Recommendation: JWH-018 is included in item 1 of Schedule II to the CDSA and is a controlled substance.

August 7, 2008