Drug Status Report

Drug: Methoxymethcathinone

Drug Name Status: Methylenedioxycathinone is the common name.

There are three possible isomers - 2-, 3- and 4-methoxymethcathinone. The 4-methoxy isomer will be dealt with in detail. The other isomers have the same status as the 4 isomer.

Chemical Name: 2-Methylamino-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-propanone

Chemical structure:

Molecular Formula: C₁₁H₁₅NO₂

Pharmacological class / Application: amphetamine

International status

US: The substance is not listed on the US Controlled Substances Act and is not mentioned on the DEA website. However, methoxymethcathinone may be controlled in the US due to the analogue provisions in the CSA.

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: Item 1 of Schedule III to the CDSA is, "Amphetamines, their salts, derivatives, isomers and analogues and salts of derivatives, isomers and analogues." Subitem 1(7) is 4-methoxyamphetamine which is also known as PMA (structure shown above). "Analogue" is defined in the Act as "a substance that, in relation to a controlled substance, has a substantially similar chemical structure." As the structure of 4-methoxymethcathinone is substantially similar to 4-methoxyamphetamine, it is an analogue of that substance and included in item 1 of Schedule III. As all isomers of substances in item 1 of Schedule III are also included in that item, the 2- and 3- positional isomers of 4-methoxymethcathinone are also included in item 1.

Recommendation: Methoxymethcathinone is included in item 1 of Schedule III to the CDSA and is a controlled substance.

October 16, 2009