

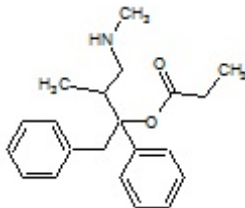
Drug Status Report

Drug: Norpropoxyphene

Drug Name Status: Norpropoxyphene is the common name

Chemical Name: 1,2-Diphenyl-3-methyl-4-(methylamino)-2-butanol, propanoate ester

Chemical structure:



Molecular Formula: $C_{21}H_{27}NO_2$

Pharmacological class / Application: metabolite of propoxyphene

International status:

US: Norpropoxyphene is not currently listed explicitly 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: Item 7 of Schedule I to the CDSA is "Phenalkoxams, their salts, derivatives and salts of derivatives." Dextropropoxyphene is subitem 3. Dextropropoxyphene is the dextrorotatory isomer of propoxyphene which describes an equal mixture of dextro- and levorotatory isomers of the substance. So, norpropoxyphene contains about 50% nordextropropoxyphene which is a metabolite¹ of dextropropoxyphene. Therefore as a derivative of dextropropoxyphene, norpropoxyphene contains a controlled substance and is included in item 7 of Schedule I.

Recommendation: Norpropoxyphene is included in item 7 of Schedule I to the CDSA and is a controlled substance.

May 18, 2007

¹ Horsmans Y, Desager JP, Daenens C, Harvengt C, Geubel AP, J. Hepatol. 21(3) 283-291 (1994)