Drug Status Report

Drug: Nortilidine

Drug Name Status: Nortilidine is the common name.

Chemical Name: trans-(+-)-2-(Methylamino)-1-phenyl-3-cyclohexene-1-carboxylic acid, ethyl

ester

Chemical structure:

Molecular Formula: C₁₆H₂₁NO₂

Pharmacological class / Application: drug metabolite

International status:

US: The substance is not listed specifically on the schedules to the US Controlled Substances Act. However, tilidine is listed on Schedule I to the Act and therefore the analogue provision of the CSA would capture this active analysesic substance.

United Nations: Tilidine is listed in Schedule I to the 1961 Convention. However, nortilidine is not listed on the Yellow List - List of Narcotic Drugs under International Control nor on the Green List - List of Psychotropic Substances under International Control.

Canadian Status: Item 17 of Schedule I to the CDSA is, "Tilidine (Ethyl 2-(dimethylamino)-1-phenyl-3-cyclohexene-1-carboxylate), its salts, derivatives and salts of derivatives". Nortilidine is the active metabolite of tilidine¹. Therefore, as a derivative of tilidine, it is included in item 17 of Schedule I.

Recommendation: Nortilidine is included in item 17 of Schedule I and is a controlled substance.

September 16, 2008

¹ Vollmer KO, Thomann P, Hengy H. Arzneimittelforschung. 1989 Oct;39(10):1283-8 and Weiss J, Sawa E, Riedel KD, Haefeli WE, Mikus G. Naunyn Schmiedebergs Arch Pharmacol. 2008 Sep;378(3):275-82. Epub 2008 May 31.