Drug Status Report

Drug: I - 5,6-Dehydronorketamine

II - Norketamine

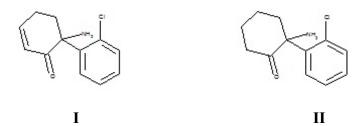
Drug Name Status: I - 5,6-Dehydronorketamine

II - Norketamine are common names.

Chemical Name: I - 6-amino-6-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-cyclohexen-1-one

II - 2-amino-2-(o-chlorophenyl)cyclohexanone

Chemical structure:



Molecular Formula: I - C₁₂H₁₂Cl NO; II - C₁₂H₁₄Cl NO

CAS Number: I - 57683-62-2; II - 35211-10-0

Pharmacological class / Application: Metabolites of ketamine

International status:

US: 5,6-Dehydronorketamine and norketamine are not currently listed on the US Controlled Substances Act and are not mentioned on the DEA website.

United Nations: The substances are 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: 5,6-Dehydronorketamine and norketamine are not listed specifically in the CDSA. However, it is well established in the scientific literature that 5,6-dehydronorketamine and norketamine are the two major metabolites of ketamine, and contribute to the pharmacological properties of the parent drug¹.

Ketamine is currently listed under item 1(sub-item 14) of Schedule I to the CDSA, under the heading "Phencyclidine (1-(1-phenylcyclohexyl)piperidine), its salts, derivatives and analogues

¹Bolze, S. and Boulieu R. (1998) HPLC determination of ketamine, norketamine and dehydroketamine in plasma with a high-purity reversed-phase sorbent, Clin. Chem. **44**:560-564.

and salts of derivatives and analogues, including:". Since 5,6-dehydronorketamine and norketamine are derived from ketamine, they must be included under item 1(14) of Schedule I to the CDSA.

Recommendation: 5,6-dehydronorketamine and norketamine are included under item 1(14) of Schedule I to the CDSA and are controlled substances.

July 14th 2010