Drug Status Report (Interim)

Drug: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone

Drug Name Status: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone is the chemical name

Chemical Name: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone

Chemical structure:

Molecular Formula: C₅H₉NO

Pharmacological class / Application: solvent

International status:

US: The substance is not included specifically in the Schedules to the CSA. It is not mentioned on the DEA website.

United Nations: The chemical 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. It is also not listed on the Red List - List of Precursors and Chemicals frequently used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances under International Control.

Canadian Status: Pyrrolidinones should not be confused with lactones. The former have a nitrogen in the ring; the latter have an oxygen in the ring. Concern about the gamma lactones is based on their easy conversion to 4-hydroxybutyric acid (Schedule III). OCS has reviewed other pyrrolidinones, namely piracetam and aniracetam, and determined that they are not controlled substances (March 16, 2005).

Recommendation: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone is not included in the schedules to the CDSA and is not a controlled substance.

April 19, 2006

Drug Status Report (Final)

Drug: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone

Drug Name Status: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone is the chemical name

Chemical Name: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone

Chemical structure:

Molecular Formula: C₅H₉NO

Pharmacological class / Application: solvent

International status:

US: The substance is not included specifically in the Schedules to the CSA. It is not mentioned on the DEA website.

United Nations: The chemical 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. It is also not listed on the Red List - List of Precursors and Chemicals frequently used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances under International Control.

Canadian Status: Pyrrolidinones should not be confused with lactones. The former have a nitrogen in the ring; the latter have an oxygen in the ring. Concern about the gamma lactones is based on their easy conversion to 4-hydroxybutyric acid (Schedule III). OCS has reviewed other pyrrolidinones, namely piracetam and aniracetam, and determined that they are not controlled substances (March 16, 2005).

Recommendation: 1-Methylpyrrolidinone is not included in the schedules to the CDSA and is not a controlled substance.

June 12, 2006