



STATUS DECISION OF CONTROLLED AND NON-CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE(S)

Substance: Zolazepam

Based on the current information available to the Office of Controlled Substances, it appears that the above substance is:

Controlled [ ]
Not Controlled [X]

under the schedules of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) for the following reason(s):

- Although zolazepam has been loosely described as a benzodiazepine this is likely due to its pharmacology. The World Health Organization describes the substance as a "not-true benzodiazepine". This is because the substance does not contain the essential structural element of a benzodiazepine. Zolazepam cannot therefore be considered a benzodiazepine.

Supporting document attached: Drug Status Report by Mr. LeBelle

Prepared by: Xiao Peng Feng

Date: Aug. 21, 2006

Drug Status Report by: Mr. M. LeBelle

Date: August 21, 2006

Approved by: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF

Date: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

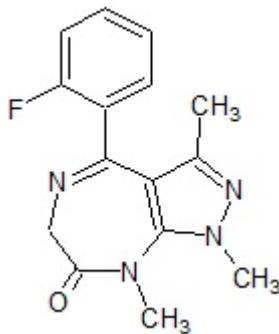
## Drug Status Report

**Drug:** Zolazepam

**Drug Name Status:** Zolazepam is the proper name (INN and BAN)

**Chemical Name:** 4-(2-fluorophenyl)-6,8-dihydro-1,3,8-trimethyl-pyrazolo(3,4-e)(1,4)diazepin-7(1H)-one

**Chemical structure:**



**Molecular Formula:** C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sub>4</sub>O

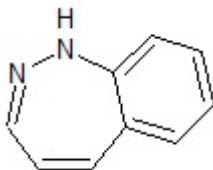
**Pharmacological class / Application:** non barbiturate sedative

**International status:**

US: Tiletamine and zolazepam combination product (telazol) is listed on Schedule III to the CSA.

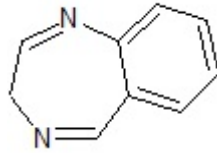
United Nations: Zolazepam is not listed on the Yellow List - List of Narcotic Drugs under International Control nor the Green List - List of Psychotropic Substances under International Control.

Canadian Status: The drug is currently not listed specifically on the CDSA. Item 18 of Schedule IV to the CDSA is, "Benzodiazepines, their salts and derivatives." Benzodiazepine has the following structure.



1,2-benzodiazepine

In this substance the nitrogen atoms are at the 1 and 2 positions. In the benzodiazepines listed in item 18 of Schedule IV the nitrogens are situated at the 1,4 and 1,5 positions. The 1,4 configuration is shown below.



1,4-benzodiazepine

Although zolazepam has been loosely described as a benzodiazepine this is likely due to its pharmacology. The World Health Organization describes the substance as a “not-true benzodiazepine”. This is because the substance does not contain the essential structural element of a benzodiazepine. Zolazepam cannot therefore be considered a benzodiazepine.

Zolazepam is similar to zolpidem in having benzodiazepine-like effects but not the essential benzodiazepine structure. Zolpidem is listed separately on Schedule IV as item 25.

Recommendation: Zolazepam is not included in item 18 of Schedule IV to the CDSA and is not a controlled substance.

August 21, 2006

