

## Drug Status Report

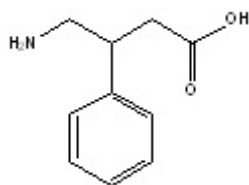
**Drug:** Beta-phenyl-gamma-aminobutyric acid

**Drug Name Status:** Beta-phenyl GABA is the common name.

**Chemical Name:** 4-amino-3-phenylbutyric acid

**Other Names:** Beta-(aminomethyl)-benzenepropanoic acid; beta-(aminomethyl)-hydrocinnamic acid; Phenibut, fenibut, phenybut

**Chemical structure:**



**Molecular Formula:** C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>

**CAS-RN:** 1078-21-3

**Pharmacological class / Application:** Neuropsychotropic

**International status:**

US: The substance is not currently listed 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: Beta-phenyl-gamma-aminobutyric acid is a derivative of the neurotransmitter,  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid (GABA). The substance is a neuropsychotropic drug similar to baclofen, and displays both anxiolytic and nootropic effects<sup>1</sup>. There are reports that the substance has been used as an alternative to GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid)<sup>2</sup> and in food supplements to lower stress

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<sup>1</sup>Lapin, I. (2001) Phenibut (beta-phenyl-GABA): a tranquilizer and nootropic drug, CNS Drug Rev. 7:471-781.

<sup>2</sup><http://www.entheogen.com/forum/showthread.php?t=6827>

and improve cognition<sup>3</sup>. However, the substance is not a salt of GHB and is not structurally similar to any of those listed in the Schedules to the CDSA.

Recommendation: Beta-phenyl-gamma-aminobutyric acid is not included in the schedules CDSA and is not a controlled substance.

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

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<sup>3</sup><http://www.vitasprings.com/phenibut-powder-100-g-nutraceuticalsrx.html>