

Drug Status Report

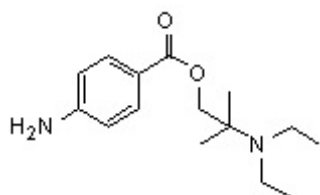
Drug: Larocaine

Drug Name Status: Larocaine is the common name.

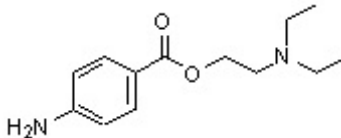
Chemical Name: 1-*p*-aminobenzoyl-2,2-dimethyl-3-diethylaminopropanol hydrochloride

Other Names: Dimethocaine hydrochloride

Chemical structure:



larocaine



procaine

Molecular Formula: C₁₆H₂₅N₂O₂.HCl

Pharmacological class / Application: anaesthetic

International status:

US: The substance is not currently listed on 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: Larocaine is an esteratic local anaesthetic drug and has also been used as a topical anaesthetic in ophthalmic applications¹. The substance is structurally similar to a more common anaesthetic procaine and has been reported in the scientific literature to display dopamine agonist activity and stimulant effects similar to cocaine². However, larocaine does not fall under the heading “Coca (Erthroxyton), its preparations, derivatives, alkaloids and salts, including” of item 2 of Schedule I to the CDSA and is not structurally similar to any of the other substances in the CDSA.

¹Seabaugh, VM. *et al.* (1993) Use of ophthalmic topical anaesthetics, *Fd. Chem. Toxic.* **31**:95-98.

²Rigon, AR. and Takahasi RN. (1996) Stimulant activities of dimethocaine in mice: reinforcing and anxiogenic effects, *Psychopharmacol.* **127**:323-327.

Recommendation: Larocaine is not included in the Schedules to the CDSA and is not a controlled substance.

June 18th 2010