Drug Status Report

**Drug**: Phenylacetamide

**Drug Name Status**: α-Phenylacetamide is the common name.

**Chemical Name**: 2-phenylacetamide is the chemical name

**Other names**: Benzeneacetamide; phenylacetic acid amide; α-toluamide; α-tolumidic acid; phenyl-β-acetylamine

**Chemical structure**:

![Chemical structure of Phenylacetamide](image)

**Molecular Formula**: C_8_ H_9_ NO

**Pharmacological class / Application**: fine chemical

**International status**:

US: α-Phenylacetamide is not currently listed on the Schedules to the CSA and 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. α-Phenylacetamide is also not present 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: α-Phenylacetamide is a chemical reagent and is often used in the synthesis of penicillin\(^1\). Phenylacetic acid and its salts are considered Class A Precursors and listed as item 12 in Part 1 of Schedule VI to the CDSA. While α-phenylacetamide may be prepared from phenylacetic acid via the Willgerodt rearrangement reaction\(^2\), the substance is not a salt of phenylacetic acid. Accordingly, it is not included under item 12 “Phenylacetic acid acid and its salts” in Part 1 of Schedule VI to the CDSA.

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Recommendation: α-Phenylacetamide is not included in any of the Schedules to the CDSA and is not considered to be a controlled substance nor a precursor.

April 26th, 2010