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:**

![Chemical structure](image)

**Molecular Formula:** $C_{10}H_{13}NO_2$

**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\(^1\). There are reports that the substance has been used as an alternative to GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid)\(^2\) and in food supplements to lower stress.


\(^2\) http://www.entheogen.com/forum/showthread.php?t=6827
and improve cognition. 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 9th, 2010.

3http://www.vitasprings.com/phenibut-powder-100-g-nutraceuticsrx.html