



Texas Department of Health

William R. Archer III, M.D.
Commissioner

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Patti J. Patterson, M.D., M.P.H.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 15, 1998

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
12420 Parklawn Dr., Rm. 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Docket No. 98N-0148

To Whom It Concerns:

Abuse of ephedrine over-the-counter (OTC) products, particularly by young people, continues to be a widespread problem in Texas. Comments received from Texas medical professionals and Texas educational personnel indicate that these reports represent only a fraction of the abuse problem.

The enclosed chart summarizes calls placed to Texas poison control centers from August 1995 to August 1997 in response to individuals ingesting ephedrine OTC drug products. Most of the reports are from the Dallas poison control center, one of six centers in Texas. We have additional reports from August 1997 to present from poison control centers, school personnel, citizens, and other medical professionals; but, at present, these have not been formatted and entered into the enclosed chart. As a result, the chart does not contain the most up-to-date information, but does accurately reflect the scope of the problem we are experiencing.

Please take these reports into consideration when preparing the response to the World Health Organization regarding actual abuse of ephedrine. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Gary Coody, Senior Pharmacist, at (512) 719-0237.

Sincerely,

Cynthia T. Culmo, R.Ph.

Director

Drugs and Medical Devices Division

Enclosure

Shipped via Airborne Express on April 15, 1998 - Airbill Number 3419153382

98N-0148

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EPHEDRINE DRUG PRODUCTS
 CALLS TO TEXAS POISON CONTROL CENTERS

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SFTB	SYMPTOMS	REASON
8-2-95	14	F	Mintihins #20	HCF-Int. & released	Shaking	unknown
8-2-95	18	M	Mintihins #15	HCF-Int. & released	Headache, nausea, vomiting, cold sweat	abuse
8-14-95	17	M	Mintihins #20	HCF-Int. & released	Took at football practice, hypertensive, sinus tach.	abuse
8-16-95	15	M	Mintihins #3	HCF-Int. & released	Chest pain, SOB, hyperventilation	abuse
8-16-95	19	M	Mintihins #12	HCF-Int. & released	Shaking, nausea, headache	abuse
8-22-95	13	M	Mintihins		Nervous-acting, elevated blood pressure	abuse
8-22-95	17	M	Mintihins	HCF-Int. & released		abuse
9-4-95	15	F	Mintihins	Admit	Gagging	susp.suicide-int
9-11-95	29	F	Mintihins / 1 box	Admit, noncritical care	Tachycardia	unknown
9-11-95	> 20	F	Mintihins	Admit-critical care		susp.suicide-int
9-23-95	> 20	M	Mintihins	HCF-Int. & released		unintentional
9-24-95	16	F	Mintihins	Admit-critical care		
9-26-95	17	F	Mintihins #3	Non HCF-on site		unintentional
9-29-95	15	F	Mintihins #22	HCF-Int. & released		susp.suicide-int.
10-11-95	14	F	Mintihins #6	Admit-psych		susp.suicide-int
10-11-95	14	F	Mintihins #6	HCF-Int. & released	Tachycardia, tremor	abuse-int
10-17-95	14	M	Mintihins #4-6	HCF-Int. & released	Dizziness, vertigo, hypension	misuse-in int
10-26-95	13-19	F	Ephedrine	Referred to HCF-DNS		intentional
10-31-95	13-19		Mintihins	Non HCA-qn site		intentional
11-11-95	18	F	Mintihins #50	Admit	Eyes swollen	susp.suicide-int
11-11-95	18	F	Mintihins #40	HCF-Int. & released		

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
11-12-95	14	F	Ephedrine	Admit-non-critical		susp. suicide-int
11-15-95	13-19	F	Minitins	School nurse		int-misuse
11-19-95	21	F	Minitins #34-37	HCF-rt. & released	nausea, vomiting	susp. suicide-int
11-26-95	18	M	Minitins	Admit-critical care		susp. suicide-int
12-8-95	18	M	Minitins #4	EMS on scene		general-un int
12-10-95	29	M	Minitins #90-95	HCF-rt. & released	palpitations	susp. suicide-int
12-18-95	19	F	Efedrine #5	HCF-rt. & released	Tremor	abuse-int
12-20-95	15	M	Minitins	HCF-rt. & released		int-misuse
12-29-95	20	F	Minitins #15-20	Admit-critical care	Hematemesis, tachycardia	susp. suicide-int.
12-31-95	25	F	Ephedrine #100	HCF-rt. & released		susp. suicide-int.
1-4-96	>20	M	Ephedrine	Non HCF-onsite		int-misuse
1-6-96	18	M	Minitins #8	HCF-rt. & released	Chest tight	abuse
1-13-96	19	F	Minitins #9	HCF-rt. & released	"just tried to party too much"	abuse
1-14-96	22	M	Minitins	Admit-critical care		susp. suicide-int
1-14-96	16	F	Minitins #5-6	HCF-rt. & released	Tachycardia	unknown
1-15-96	42	F	Minitins	Admit-critical care	Vomiting	susp. suicide-int
1-15-96	>20	M	Minitins #20	Admit-psych	Tachycardia	susp. suicide-int
1-16-96	26	M	Minitins #9	HCF-rt. & released	cramping, nausea, dizzy, numb extremities	abuse
1-16-96	22	F	Minitins	Admit-critical care		susp. suicide-int
1-17-96	18	F	Minitins	HCF-rt & released	sleepy	susp. suicide-int
1-22-96	14	F	Minitins #7-8	Admit	weakness, dizzy, restless	abuse
1-22-96	13	F	Minitins #14	Admit-critical care	increased respiration, fp	abuse
1-24-96	15	M	Minitins #6	HCF-rt. & released		abuse

DATE	AGE	SBX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
1-30-96	>20	F	Ephedrine #20	Admit-non-critical care		susp.suicide-int
2-1-96	22	M	Minitins #20-30	HCF-int. & released	Hypertension	susp.suicide-int
2-1-96	31	F	Minitins	Admit		susp.suicide-int
2-7-96	13	F	Minitins #40	Admit-non critical care		susp.suicide-int
2-15-96	16	F	Minitins #30	HCF-left AMA		susp.suicide-int
2-19-96	18	F	Minitins up to 30	Admit		abuse
2-20-96	16	F	Minitins #20-25	HCF-int. & released		susp.suicide-int
2-25-96		F	Minitins	Referred to HCF-DNS		int.abuse
2-26-96	21	F	Minitins #80	HCF-int. & released		susp.suicide-int
2-27-96	16	F	Minitins #8-10	Admit		abuse
2-29-96	19	F	Minitins 21	Admit	heart racing, bundle of nerves, pain on urination	abuse
3-1-96	17	F	Minitins #6	HCF-left AMA	Tachycardia, vomiting	misuse-un int
3-1-96	18	F	Minitins #50	Admit		susp.suicide-int
3-7-96	15	F	Minitins	HCF-int. & released		
3-16-96	19	M	Minitins	Referred to HCF-left AMA		susp.suicide-int
3-23-96	38	M	Minitins #6	Non HCA-on site		general-un int
3-25-96	25	M	Minitins	Admit-critical care	Hypertension	susp.suicide-int
3-29-96	18	F	Minitins	HCF-int. & released		susp.suicide-int
4-2-96	17	F	Minitins #50	HCF-int. & released	Chest pain, vomiting, nausea	susp.suicide-int
4-2-96	18	F	Minitins #50	HCF-int. & released	Nausea, vomiting	susp.suicide-int
4-11-96	25	F	Minitins 2handfuls	Admit		
4-16-96	24	F	Minitins	Admit-non critical care		susp.suicide-int

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
4-17-96	14	F	Minitins #1-2	Non HCF-on site		general-un int
4-28-96	17	M	Minitins #12	HCF-letn AMA		susp.suicide-int
5-3-96	11	F	Minitins #2	HCF-let. & released		general-un int
5-4-96	21	F	Minitins #90	Admit-critical care	Tachycardia, tremor	susp. suicide-int.
5-5-96	32	F	Minitins	Admit-critical care		int. abuse
5-6-96	19	M	Minitins#2, multiple drugs	Admit		susp.suicide-int
5-9-96	23	M	Minitins #6	HCF-let. & released		general-un int
5-21-96	19	F	Minitins #30	Admit-critical care	Dysrhythmia	susp.suicide-int
5-25-96	33	M	Minitins	HCF-let. & released		unknown
5-27-96	31	F	Minitins #50,	Admit		susp.suicide-int
5-28-96	13	M	Minitins	Admit- psych		susp.suicide-int
5-31-96	15	F	Minitins #50	Admit-psych		susp.suicide-int
5-31-96	30	F	Ephedrine	HCF-let. & release		int.-unknown
6-5-96	13	F	Minitins #13	HCF-let. & released	Tachycardia	unknown
6-15-96	15	F	Ephedrine	Admit-non critical care	Tinnitus, other	susp. suicide-int
6-27-96	24	F	Minitins #15	HCF-let. & released		unknown
6-30-96	25	M	Minitins #6, Up Your Energy #6	Non-HCF-on-site	Light-headed, vomiting	abuse
7-1-96	24	F	MaxAlert #30	HCF	Shaky	susp.suicide-int
7-5-96	28	F	Minitins #8-10	HCF-let & released		susp.suicide-int
7-5-96	38	M	Minitins #15	Admit		susp.suicide-int
7-9-96	51	F	Minitins		seizures-no prior history	
7-11-96	18	M	Minitins #100	HCF-admit criticalcare		susp. suicide-int.

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
7-16-96	22		Minitihns	Non HCF-on site		int. abuse
7-20-96	24	M	Minitihns	Admit	agitation	abuse
7-22-96	31	F	Minitihns #3			susp.suicide-abuse
7-25-96	22	F	Minitihns #45	Admit	IBP	susp.suicide-int
7-25-96	16	M	Minitihns	HCF		misuse
7-25-96	15	F	Minitihns	HCF		misuse
7-25-96	16	M	Minitihns	HCF		misuse
7-25-96	14	F	Minitihns	HCF		misuse
7-25-96	16	M	Minitihns	HCF		misuse
7-25-96	16	F	Minitihns	HCF		misuse
7-26-96	16	M	Minitihns #21		Thought could get high	abuse
7-26-96	16	F	Minitihns	Non HCF-on site		int. abuse
7-27-96	18	M	Minitihns	HCF-int. & released	Muleshoe, Tx	int.-unknown
7-29-96	15	F	Minitihns	Admit-critical care		susp.suicide-int.
7-30-96	17	M	Minitihns #14	Admit	dizziness, nausea	abuse
7-30-96	24	F	Ephedrine			
8-4-96	49	F	Minitihns #6	Non HCF-on site	lightheaded, increased heart rate	misuse, therapeutic error
8-10-96	20	F	Minitihns #7	HCF-int. & released	agitated, tachycardia (150), hyperventilation	abuse
8-20-96	32	M	Minitihns #6			
8-22-96	17	M	Minitihns			
8-24-96	teen	F	Minitihns "bunch"		passing out	
8-26-96	17	M	Minitihns #5, Energy pills		stomach hurts, dizzy	abuse

DATE	AGE	SBX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
8-26-96	21	M	Minitins, multiple drugs	Admit		susp. suicide-int
9-2-96	17	F	Minitins	HCF-I&A AMA		susp. suicide-int
9-2-96	19	M	Minitins #60	Admit	shaky	abuse
9-13-96	13	F	Minitins		shaking	abuse
9-13-96	16	F	Minitins #60	Admit	abdominal pains	susp. suicide-int
9-16-96	11	F	Minitins #20			
9-18-96	16	F	Minitins #2-3, OTC diet pills #2	HCF-Int. & released	agitated, shaking, flushed skin, crawling feeling	misuse
9-19-96		F	Minitins #30-40		feels bad	
9-21-96	17	F	Minitins #2	Non HCF-on site	dizzy, chest discomfort	
9-22-96	15	F	Minitins #8	Referred to HCF-DNS		susp. suicide-int
9-23-96	23	M	Minitins #100	HCF-admit	tachycardia, jittery	susp. suicide-int.
9-25-96	16	M	Minitins #50	HCF-Int. & released	tremors	susp. suicide-int
10-6-96	17	F	Minitins #14	HCF	dizzy, stares-won't talk	
10-10-96	31	M	Minitins #15-20	HCF-Int. & released	nervous, vomiting, hypertension	abuse
10-14-96	18	F	Minitins #15	Admit-psych		abuse
10-23-96	28	F	Minitins #3	HCF-Int. & released		
10-26-96	15	M	Minitins #96	HCF-Int. & released		susp. suicide
11-1-96	18	F	Minitins #8	Non HCF-on site	lightheaded, nauseated, feels weird	abuse
11-4-96	17	M	Minitins #16	HCF-Int. & released	heaving, headache	abuse
11-5-96	14	F	Minitins #4	HCF-Int. & released	tachycardia	abuse
11-6-96	34	F	Minitins #220/48h	HCF-admit	tachypnea, nausea, vomiting	abuse
11-6-96	19	F	Minitins #1	Non HCF-on site	cramping in abdomen	

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
11-12-96	14	F	Minitihins #10	HCF-Int. & released		
12-3-96	16				called for information	
12-4-96	15	F	Minitihins #14	HCF-admit	nervous, shaky	
12-6-96	15	M	Minitihins		parent found in son's room--what are they?	
12-10-96	22	M	Minitihins #120		patient states he has been taking this many for days;	abuse
12-15-96	37	F	Minitihins #40		vomiting, headache; refused advice to go to HCF;	susp. suicide
12-15-96	22	F	Minitihins #20	HCF-Int. & released	found passed out on couch; sleepy but arousable; took for weight control.	misuse
12-21-96	17	M	Minitihins		found in grandson's pocket; thinks he is using them.	
12-26-96	25	M	Minitihins #50, Nyquil #10, Excedrin #10		sick to stomach; hot flashes; upset; heart pounding; refused medical assistance; later stated he did really did not take the meds.	
1-5-97	26	F	Minitihins 15-30; Zoloft 100mg #35	HCF-admit ICU	agitation	susp. suicide
1-5-97	17	F	Minitihins, Elavil 150mg	HCF-admit ICU	unconscious-intubated	susp. suicide
1-11-97	36	M	Minitihins #60-70 for 2 wks.	HCF-Int. & released	shakiness, (illegible other symptoms)	
1-19-97	40's	F	Minitihins #200, alcohol	HCF-admit	arousable, slurred speech, ataxia, "really blitzed"	susp. suicide
1-20-97	23	M	Minitihins #15 per day at 1 time		agitated, irritable, stays sick all the time; advised to obtain info. on addictive behavior	abuse
1-21-97	38	F	Minitihins #12-13	HCF-Int. & released	took to open up bronchioles, nausea, vomiting, HA, shakes, palpitations	misuse
1-24-97	18	M	Minitihins #90	HCF-Int. & released	chest pain, coherent, agitation, sinus tachycardia	susp. suicide
1-26-97	18	F	Minitihins #35, Prozac #12	HCF-Int. & released		susp. suicide

DATE	AGE	SBX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
1-27-97		M	Minitins		"my sons takes these- I need some info." Advised to contact durg & alcohol education sources for help.	
1-31-97	18	M	Minitins #6, Ritalin 20mg #6, Prozac, #3	HCF-admit ICU for observation	BP 164/88	susp. suicide
2-21-97	29	F	Minitins #50 over last 2 days	Referred to HCF-DNS	shaky, jittery	
2-21-97	32	M	Minitins #10			
2-26-97	17	F	Minitins #4 since last night	Referred to HCF-DNS	emesis since AM	abuse
2-27-97	19	F	Minitins #10	Referred to HCF-DNS	look to stay awake; vomiting	misuse
2-28-97	22	F	Minitins #3	Refused HCF-"no insurance"	got from friend: referred to as "diet pills"; nausea, heart pounding	misuse
3-1-97	25	F	Minitins		During delivery, woman tested + for amphet. Admits to taking only minitins	
3-4-97	14	F	Minitins #6			
3-4-97	13	F	Minitins #4	HCF-T&R	friend told her it will help her lose wt.; vomiting since 5pm. (9:50pm report)	abuse
3-5-97	15	M	Minitins		parent found under son's mattress	
3-5-97	15	F	Minitins unk.amt	HCF-T&R	mood off, irritable, not sleeping	

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
3-7-97	< 16		Mini-HR225		found 6 pills on child at school	
3-7-97	16	M	Minitins #6	HCF-T&R	"red", agitated	
3-13-97	15	F	Minitins 8 per day		takes for energy	
3 15 97	19	F	Minitins		takes to stop period pain and decrease appetite; fever, nausea	
3-17-97	15	M	Minitins #30-75, equate, ibuprofen, APAP 500mg		3 boys took about 75 minitins over 9 hours and other meds.	Abuse
3-17-97	16	M	See above			
3-17-97	15	M	see above			
3-17-97	17	F	Minitins #5/mountain dew	Referred to HCF- refused	nervous, flushed	misuse
4-2-97	13	F	Minitins #5	ER-T&R	got from uncle, took for cold; jittery, nauseous	
4-2-97	17	F	Minitins #25	ER-referred to psychiatric consult	BP 190/100; pulse 100	susp. suicide
4-2-97	28	M	Minitins #4 + Nyquil 3oz	ER-T&R	Wired, tachycardia 120/min; BP 176/108	misuses
4-2-97	27	F	Minitins #75	ER	BP 190/100, pulse 100	Susp. suicide
4-2-97- Athens 2053872	17	M	Minitins crushed & snorted + 1Gm methamphetamine x4d	Admit, ICU	BP 200/110 p150, visual hallucinations, muscle spasms	

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
4-4-97 2052077	36	M	Minitins #35	ER-T&R	shaky when stood up	
4-4-97 2052070	16	M	Minitins #12	refused EMS transport to hospital	jittery	
4-6-97 2072679	26	M	Minitins unknown ant	refused EMS transport to hospital	very depressed; heart beating hard; conked out	abuse
4-7-97 2072580	20	M	Minitins (~50 over 8hrs)	ER-T&R	Chest pain, irregular heartbeat, tremors, diaphoresis, pupils dilated, freezing	misuse
4-7-97 2072737	19	M	Minitins (50 over 8 hrs)	ER-Admit	chest pain, irregular heart beats, tremors, diaphoresis	misuse
4-9-97 2071528	20	F	Ephedrine #6-7		severe headache, vomiting, shaking	
4-11-97 2072264	25	M	Ephedrine #3; Xanax 0.25m #2	Transferred to "The Cedars"	BP 154/78	
4-15-97 2071878	23	F	Minitins #25 and alcohol	ER-T&R	dizzy, confusion, nervous	abuse
4-28-97 2070981	13	F	Minitins #2		School nurse called poison control after student reported taking minitins	misuse
4-24-97 2068870	17	M	Minitins #9 and Ritalin #3		nausea/vomiting, trembling	

DATE	AGE	SEX	PRODUCT	SITE	SYMPTOMS	REASON
4-29-97 2050119 Irving	unk	F	Minitihns		call from school health coordinator about student who misused minitihns	misuse
4-29-97	unk	F	Minitihns		call from school health coordinator about another student who misuses minitihns	misuse
5-2-97 2071029 Mt Pleasant	19	F	Minitihns #2	ER-T&R-referred for psychiatric consult	RN reports they are having "an epidemic" with minitihns.	
5-2-97 2071484 Keene	17	F	Minitihns #6	ER-T&R	nausea/vomiting	
5-3-97 2071068 Longview	18	M	Minitihns #10	ER-T&R	Bad headache; sweating	abuse
5-21-97 2075480	42	M	Ma Luang 5/day x3mos		Dizzy, memory impairment	
6-8-97 0460332 Mesquite	24	M	Minitihns #25-30 and beer	ER-T&R	Felt heart racing	
6-8-97 0459988 Arlington	25	M	Minitihns #100	Admit	Tachycardia-140/min.; nervous; minimal tremors;	susp. suicide
8-3-97 0455999 Waxahachie	18	M	Minitihns #15	ADMIT-ICU	Took 15 Minitihns, then experienced headache so took ASA. One side of body went numb and was paralyzed. Seized on way to ER; intra-ventricular bleed	abuse

Dated: March 8, 1998.

William K. Hubbard,

Associate Commissioner for Policy
Coordination.

[FR Doc. 98-6906 Filed 3-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 98N-0148]

International Drug Scheduling; Convention on Psychotropic Substances; Dihydroetorphine; Ephedrine; Remifentanil; Isomers of Psychotropic Substances

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration,
HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is requesting interested persons to submit data or comments concerning abuse potential, actual abuse, medical usefulness, and trafficking of three drug substances. This information will be considered in preparing a response from the United States to the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding abuse liability, actual abuse, and trafficking of these drugs. WHO will use this information to consider whether to recommend that certain international restrictions be placed on these drugs. This notice requesting information is required by the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

DATES: Submit written comments by April 17, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., rm. 1-23, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicholas P. Reuter, Office of Health Affairs (HFY-20), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-827-1696, E-mail: NReuter@bangate.FDA.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States is a party to the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. Article 2 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances provides that if a party to that convention or WHO has information about a substance, which in its opinion may require international control or change in such control, it shall so notify the Secretary General of the United Nations and provide the Secretary General with information in support of its opinion.

The CSA (21 U.S.C. 811 *et seq.*) (Title II of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse

Prevention and Control Act of 1970) provides that when WHO notifies the United States under Article 2 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances that it has information that may justify adding a drug or other substance to one of the schedules of that convention, transferring a drug or substance from one schedule to another, or deleting it from the schedules, the Secretary of State must transmit the notice to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the Secretary of HHS). The Secretary of HHS must then publish the notice in the **Federal Register** and provide opportunity for interested persons to submit comments to assist HHS in preparing scientific and medical evaluations about the drug or substance. The Secretary of HHS received the following notices from WHO:

I. WHO Notification

Ref. : C. L.23 .1997

WHO questionnaire for collection of information for review of dependence- producing psychoactive substances

The Director-General of the World Health Organization presents his compliments and has the pleasure of informing Member States that the Thirty-first Expert Committee on Drug Dependence will meet from 23 to 26 June 1998 to review the following substances:

1. Dihydroetorphine
2. Ephedrine
3. Remifentanil
4. With regard to all substances in Schedules I and II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971:
 - (a) their isomers, except where expressly excluded, whenever the existence of such isomers is possible;
 - (b) their esters and ethers, except where included in another schedule, whenever the existence of such esters and ethers is possible;
 - (c) salts of those esters, ethers and isomers, under the conditions stated above, whenever the formation of such salts is possible;
 - (d) a substance resulting from modification of the chemical structure of a substance already in these schedules and which produces pharmacological effects similar to those produced by the original substance.

One of the essential elements of the established review procedure is for the Secretariat to collect relevant information from Member States to prepare a Critical Review document for submission to the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence. The Director-General invites Member States to collaborate, as in the past, in this process by providing all pertinent information mentioned in the attached questionnaire¹ concerning the substances mentioned in items 1 to 3 above. The questionnaire does not include any questions about the groups of substances specified under item 4, since the required information is already being sought by the Secretary-General of the United

Nations in his Circular Letter NAR/CL.4/1997.

Further clarification on any of the above items can be obtained from Psychotropic and Narcotic Drugs (PND), Division of Drug Management and Policies, WHO, Geneva, to which replies should be sent not later than 1 March 1998.

GENEVA, 30 December 1997

Questionnaire for data collection for use by the World Health Organization and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the Economic and Social Council

Substance reported on:

1. Availability of the substance (registered, marketed, dispensed, etc.).
2. Extent of abuse of the substance.
3. Degree of seriousness of the public health and social problems² associated with abuse of the substance.
4. Number of seizures of the substance in the illicit traffic during the previous three years and the quantities involved.
5. Identification of the seized substance as of local or foreign manufacture and indication of any commercial markings.
6. Existence of clandestine laboratories manufacturing the substance.

II. United Nations Notifications

The U.S. Government has received two notifications from the Secretary General of the United Nations. The first notification (NAR/CL./1997, signed May 28, 1997), transmits under to Article 2, paragraph 1 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971, a request from the Government of Spain to amend Schedules I and II of the Convention to include:

“(a) isomers, except where expressly excluded, of substances listed in those Schedules, whenever the existence of such isomers is possible;

“(b) esters and ethers of substances in those Schedules, except where included in another Schedule, whenever the existence of such esters or ethers is possible;

“(c) salts of those esters, ethers and isomers, under the conditions stated above, whenever the formation of such salts is possible;

“(d) a substance resulting from modification of the chemical structure of a substance already in Schedule I or Schedule II and which produces pharmacological effects similar to those produced by the original substance.”

The May 28, 1997, notification included as annexes, the original request from the Government of Spain, along with a questionnaire. A subsequent notification from the United

²Examples of public health and social problems are acute intoxication, accidents, work absenteeism, mortality, behaviour problems, criminality, etc.

¹For Ministries of Health only.

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