

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Placement of Butonitazene, Etodesnitazene, Flunitazene, Metodesnitazene, Metonitazene, N-Pyrrolidino etonitazene, and Protonitazene in Schedule I for Controlled Substances


WHEREAS, pursuant to S.C. Code Section 44-53-160(C), the S.C. Board of Health and Environmental Control (Board) shall designate a substance as a controlled substance by scheduling it in accordance with an order effecting federal scheduling as a controlled substance;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”), issued a temporary scheduling order placing Butonitazene, Etodesnitazene, Flunitazene, Metodesnitazene, Metonitazene, N-Pyrrolidino etonitazene, and Protonitazene, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of such isomers is possible, in schedule I of the federal Controlled Substance Act, effective April 12, 2022. F.R. Volume 87, Number 70, pp. 21556-21561;

WHEREAS, studies show that butonitazene, etodesnitazene, flunitazene, metodesnitazene, metonitazene, N-pyrrolidino etonitazene, and protonitazene have pharmacological profiles similar to those of the potent benzimidazole-opioids etonitazene and isotonitazene, both schedule I controlled substances;

WHEREAS, according to its temporary scheduling order, the DEA has concluded butonitazene, etodesnitazene, flunitazene, metodesnitazene, metonitazene, N-pyrrolidino etonitazene, and protonitazene have high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision.; therefore, these seven synthetic benzimidazole-opioid substances should be placed in schedule I of the federal Controlled Substances Act effective April 12, 2022; and

THEREFORE, the Board of Health and Environmental Control adopts the federal scheduling of the seven synthetic benzimidazole-opioid amends Section 44-53-190(B) by adding and designating into Schedule I of the South Carolina Controlled Substances Act: 2-(2-(4-butoxybenzyl)-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)-N,N-diethylethan-1- amine, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other name: butonitazene); 2-(2-(4-ethoxybenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)-N,N-diethylethan-1-amine, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other names: etodesnitazene; etazene); N,N-diethyl-2-(2-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)ethan-1- amine, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other name: flunitazene); N,N-diethyl-2-(2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)ethan-1-amine, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other name: metodesnitazene); N,N-diethyl-2-(2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)ethan-1- amine, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other name: metonitazene); 2-(4-ethoxybenzyl)-5-nitro-1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-benzimidazole, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other names: Npyrrolidino etonitazene; etonitazepyne); N,N-diethyl-2-(5-nitro-2-(4-propoxybenzyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)ethan-1- amine, its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters and ethers (Other name: protonitazene).


Robert Bolchoz, Chairman
S.C. Board of Health and Environmental Control

May 5, 2022
Columbia, South Carolina