



From the Desk of the Director

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SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Placement of *N*-Desethyl Isotonitazene and *N*-Piperidinyl Etonitazene in Schedule for Controlled Substances

WHEREAS, pursuant to S.C. Code Section 44-53-160(C), the S.C. Department of Public Health 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 order placing *N*-desethyl isotonitazene and *N*-piperidinyl etonitazene, including its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers whenever the existence of such isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible, in schedule I of the federal Controlled Substance Act (“CSA”), effective July 29, 2024. F.R. Volume 89, Number 145, pp. 60817-60823;

WHEREAS, the DEA has concluded that *N*-desethyl isotonitazene and *N*-piperidinyl etonitazene have high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and lack accepted safety for use under medical supervision, and therefore has placed these two synthetic benzimidazole-opioid substances in schedule I of the CSA; and

THEREFORE, the Department of Public Health adopts the federal scheduling of *N*-desethyl isotonitazene and *N*-piperidinyl etonitazene, including its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers whenever the existence of such isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible and amends Section 44-53-190 of the South Carolina Controlled Substances Act to include the following in Schedule I:

() *N*-ethyl-2-(2-(4-isopropoxybenzyl)-5-nitro-1 H-benzimidazol-1-yl)ethan-1-amine (commonly known as *N*-desethyl isotonitazene);

() 2-(4-ethoxybenzyl)-5-nitro-1-(2-(piperidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H -benzimidazole (commonly known as either *N*-piperidinyl etonitazene or etonitazepipne)

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