

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## CONTROLLED DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES ACT

### *Notice to interested parties — Proposal regarding the scheduling of AH-7921 and MT-45 under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and the Narcotic Control Regulations*

This notice provides interested stakeholders with the opportunity to provide comments on Health Canada's proposal to add AH-7921 (1-(3,4-dichlorobenzamidomethyl)cyclohexyldimethylamine), its salts, isomers and salts of isomers and MT-45 (1-cyclohexyl-4-(1,2-diphenylethyl)piperazine), its salts, derivatives, isomers and analogues and salts of derivatives, isomers and analogues to Schedule I to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA) and to the Schedule to the *Narcotic Control Regulations* (NCR).

AH-7921 is a synthetic opioid developed in 1974 as a potential analgesic by Allen & Hanburys, a pharmaceutical company based in the United Kingdom, but it was never marketed commercially. AH-7921 does not have any recorded therapeutic applications or industrial use. In 2012, AH-7921 began to be marketed by internet retailers as a "research chemical." In March 2015, the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs voted in favour of controlling AH-7921 under Schedule I of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (1961 Convention). As a signatory, Canada has an obligation to adopt the controls required by the 1961 Convention. The CDSA is the statutory instrument through which the Government of Canada fulfills its international obligations under the UN drug control conventions. As substances that are structurally related to AH-7921 are also known to have abuse potential and are included in the Convention, the salts, isomers and salts of isomers of AH-7921 will also be scheduled along with the parent substance.

MT-45 is a synthetic opioid with potential health risks similar to those of other controlled opioids. Although MT-45 is not currently controlled under the UN drug control conventions, the European Union (EU) Council adopted the decision to control MT-45 across the EU in December 2014, in part as a result of 28 deaths associated with MT-45 in Sweden. To date, there is no known evidence demonstrating that MT-45 has actual or potential uses apart from scientific research. In order to capture substances that are structurally related to MT-45 and have psychoactive effects, it is also proposed that the salts, derivatives, isomers and analogues of MT-45 and the salts of these substances be scheduled along with the parent substance.

These proposed amendments would prohibit, among other activities, the possession, trafficking, possession for the purpose of trafficking, importation, exportation, possession for the purpose of exportation, and production of the above substances, except as authorized under the NCR or via an exemption under section 56 of the CDSA.

The publication of this notice in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, initiates a 30-day comment period. Interest in this process or comments on this notice should be expressed to the Regulatory Policy Division, Controlled Substances and Tobacco Directorate, Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch, Health Canada by mail at Address Locator: 0302A, 150 Tunney's Pasture

Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9, or by email at ocs\_regulatorypolicy-  
bsc\_politiquereglementaire@hc-sc.gc.ca.

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