

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Placement of Remimazolam into Schedule IV 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 an interim final rule placing remimazolam, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible, in schedule IV of the federal Controlled Substance Act, effective October 6, 2020. F.R. Volume 85, Number 194, pp. 63014-63019;

WHEREAS, remimazolam is a new molecular entity with central nervous system depressant properties, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration have recently approved the use of remimazolam to be used for the induction and maintenance of procedural sedation in adults undergoing procedures lasting 30 minutes or less;

WHEREAS, according to its interim final rule, the DEA has concluded remimazolam has a low potential for abuse relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule III, a currently accepted medical use in the United States, and may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the drugs or other substances in schedule III; therefore, remimazolam should be placed in schedule IV of the federal Controlled Substances Act effective October 6, 2020; and

THEREFORE, the Board of Health and Environmental Control adopts the federal scheduling of remimazolam and amends Section 44-53-250 of the South Carolina Code of Laws by adding and designating into Schedule IV of the South Carolina Controlled Substances Act: Remimazolam (4H-imidazol[1,2-a][1,4]benzodiazepine-4-propionic acid, 8-bromo-1-methyl-6-(2-pyridinyl)-(4S)-methyl ester, benzenesulfonate (1:1) or methyl 3-[(4S)-8-bromo-1-methyl-6-pyridin-2-yl-4H-imidazo[1,2-a][1,4]benzodiazepin-4yl]propanoate benzenesulfonic acid).



Mark Elam, Chairman
S.C. Board of Health and Environmental Control

October 8, 2020
Columbia, South Carolina