

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

Questionnaire

Abuse and trafficking of cough syrups containing
codeine or other narcotic drugs

Please return this questionnaire by **29 February 2008** to:

Secretariat of INCB, UNODC
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 500
A-1400 Vienna
Austria

Fax: +43 1 26060-5867
Tel.: +43 1 26060-4933

Please state the name of the submitting authority:

Country:

Authority:

Contact person:

Tel:

Fax:

email:

Please provide the names of authorities and contact persons who might be
able to provide additional information if required:

Authority/ies:

Contact person/s:

Tel:

Fax:

email:

Explanations and general instructions

This questionnaire was prepared to gather information on abuse and trafficking of cough syrups containing narcotic drugs. Cough syrups may contain codeine or other narcotic drugs, such as dihydrocodeine, ethylmorphine or pholcodine. Cough syrups containing narcotic drugs are frequently available without prescription and as over-the-counter medicines.

Even if detailed information is not available, please respond to the questions below, indicating trends in your country or expressing your opinion. Please use additional sheets, if necessary, with a reference to the specific questions in the questionnaire. Please attach any documents, reports, etc., containing complementary information you deem relevant.

Questions

Please mark the correct answer and/or provide explanations as requested below:

1. Is there any abuse of cough syrups containing narcotic drugs in your country?

yes

no

information not available to the authorities

2. If there is abuse of cough syrups containing narcotic drugs in your country, please indicate the extent of abuse:

small

large

very large

3. Please describe the trend of abuse of cough syrups in your country:

decreasing

stable

increasing

4. Please provide any additional information on the extent of abuse of cough syrups in your country:

(Such information should include, if available, the estimated number of abusers; the age group in which there are the main abusers; any relation between abuse of cough syrups and abuse of other drugs; etc.)

5. Please provide details of cough syrups abused in your country:

(Such information should include, if available, the brand name of the cough syrups; whether the cough syrups abused are counterfeits; the names of the narcotic drug and the other active ingredients contained in the cough syrups; the average content of the narcotic drug in question and of the other active ingredients in the cough syrups, e.g. in mg per ml; etc.)

6. Please provide information on any public health consequences related to the abuse of cough syrups that have been observed in your country:

7. Please provide information on how the abusers in your country obtain cough syrups containing narcotic drugs:

- (a) through purchase in pharmacies/other licit distribution outlets
- (b) through purchase in the illicit market (including informal market of medicines)

Please indicate which of the two above-mentioned sources is the main source:

.....

8. If cough syrups are purchased by abusers from pharmacies/other licit distribution outlets, please indicate whether:

(a) a prescription is mandatory for dispensation of these cough syrups:

yes no

(b) an import authorization is mandatory for imports of these cough syrups

yes no

Please provide any additional explanations, as appropriate:

9. If cough syrups are purchased by abusers in the illicit market (including informal market of medicines), please indicate the sources from which cough syrups are obtained by those selling them in the illicit market:

- (a) by purchase from: importers
- manufacturers
- wholesalers
- pharmacies
- illicit manufacturers (including
manufacturers of counterfeits)

- (b) by theft from: manufacturers
- wholesalers
- pharmacies
- hospitals

- (c) by smuggling

In case of smuggling, please indicate the country of origin and whether these cough syrups are licitly manufactured pharmaceutical products, counterfeits or other illicitly manufactured products:

.....

- (d) other sources (please specify):

10. If cough syrups are purchased by abusers in the illicit market (including informal market of medicines), and taking into account your response under the question 9, please indicate which is in your opinion the main source from which cough syrups are obtained by those selling them in the illicit market (provide any additional information you consider appropriate):

.....

11. Have any special measures been taken in your country in recent years to reduce the illicit traffic, diversion from licit sources and/or extent of abuse of cough syrups containing narcotic drugs? Are any measures considered for the future? If yes, please describe these current and future measures:

12. Please provide any other information, comments and/or data (e.g. seizures) you may have on abuse and trafficking of cough syrups containing narcotic drugs: