



Press Release

Department of Health, Executive Yuan

Date	June 27, 2007	Dept.	National Bureau of Controlled Drugs	No.	
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Subject : Drug abuse could be fatal ! NBCD urge general public do not dare to try the narcotic drugs

Narcotic drug Thiamylal sodium is very fast in response, and short in duration. It is a super short time central neuron inhibitor with hypnotic and sedative functions for short time induction of whole body anesthetization. Clinical application is limited by physician's prescription only; side effect is significant breath inhibition, myocardium inhibition, somnolence, and amnesia.

It is reported that heroin price raised to sky high due to stringent scrutiny of narcotic drugs recently by police, prosecutors and investigation agency which reduced the supply and drives drug addicts to other narcotic drug such as Thiamylal sodium as emerging substitute. This is rather very risky since incorrect injection would cause ulcerate on hypoderm layer and even lethal. Thiamylal sodium is alkaline which should be injected via vein. Inadequate injection by non health care professions could cause ulcerate on hypoderm layer and even amputation of limbs. On top of that, injection too fast could cause rapid decreasing of blood pressure and even shock. Excess amount could cause larynx convulsion, difficult breath, cough, myocardium inhibition and even fatal. There are two cases of Thiamylal identified through urine screening in 2006 from drug abuse report system at Department of Health.

United Nation and other countries in the world treated Thiamylal as general short term and super short term anesthetic drug which is a legitimate drug for medical application. Since it is very low in addiction, therefore it is not listed as controlled drug. There are four licenses issued by Department of Health for Thiamylal sodium which all required physician's prescription for application. In general, if pharmacy sale this drug without prescription, it will violate pharmaceutical regulation article 50 item 1, and also followed same regulation's article 92 item 1 to be fined with at least

thirty thousands dollars up to maximum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Department of Health also highlighted that pharmacy should not sale this drug without prescription for small profit and get penalized.

The Department of Health regret that some misleading message that accuse Department of Health delinquency on not putting this item on control list. Meanwhile, we would once again ask general public not dare to try narcotic drugs.

For further press information: Director, JIN-YI CHIOU
Telephone: (02)- 23952280 (Agency: NBCD)