



State of Utah Controlled Substances Advisory Committee

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Chair

January 17, 2018

Health and Human Services Interim Committee
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
W210 State Capital Complex
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

SUBJECT: Controlled Substances Advisory Committee—2018 Legislative Recommendations (Addendum)

Dear Members of the Health and Human Services Interim Committee:

The Controlled Substances Advisory Committee (CSAC) met on 01/16/2018, in special session, to discuss a recent cluster of cases with serious adverse effects involving a product sold as cannabidiol (CBD) oil in Utah. The Utah Poison Control Center alerted public health officials after it was consulted by area emergency physicians on the management of several patients who were experience adverse effects inconsistent with CBD. The misbranded CBD oil is being sold in smoke shops in Utah and Salt Lake Counties. Persons ingesting this misbranded CBD oil have suffered altered mental status, slurred speech, loss of consciousness, and have been frequently associated with seizures. Most of these cases have required emergency department care. The misbranded CBD oil was obtained from one of the smoke shops and sent to the Utah Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory for analysis. The analysis of the compound is shown in Figure 1 attached below. The misbranded CBD oil contains *no CBD*, but is a compound identified as 4-cyano CUMYL-BUTINACA, a synthetic cannabinoid agonist similar to other “spice” compounds. This finding was confirmed by a commercial standard. Please note in red in Figure 1 that the compound has two points of divergence from AB-PINACA, a listed controlled substance in the Controlled Substance Act.

Based on the large number of cases, the substantial morbidity associated with ingestion of the misbranded CBD oil, the continued ability to obtain the substance in Utah and Salt Lake Counties, and the chemical structure differences from any listed controlled substance, we advise the Utah Legislature to add 4-cyano CUMYL-BUTINACA to the “Schedule of Listed Controlled Substances” identified in Utah Code 58-37-4 during the 2018 Legislative Session.

The Committee thanks you for your attention to these important issues and looks forward to continuing to serve as a consultative and advisory body to the Legislature.

Respectively Submitted,

The Controlled Substances Advisory Committee

Mark Munger, Pharm.D., Committee Chair

Erik D. Christensen, M.D.
Glen R. Hanson, Ph.D., DDS.
Elizabeth Howell, M.D.
Paige Patterick, B.S., R.Ph.
Colonel Brian Redd
Scott W. Reed, J.D.
Kenneth Schaecher, M.D.
Darin M. Vercillo, M.D.
Blaine Winters, DNP, APRN,
Jeffrey V. Wright, ND
Jeff Busjahn, Committee Administrator

FIGURE 1

