

PA DOH Patient Advocacy Program Advisory: Increased Risk of Withdrawal Symptoms Associated with 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) and Tianeptine After Federal Scheduling

As you may already be aware, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has issued two notices of intent to schedule three *synthetic* 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH)-related substances and tianeptine as Schedule I substances.

These recent federal scheduling actions are expected to reduce access to synthetic 7-OH and tianeptine for people across Pennsylvania. Due to disrupted access, individuals currently using 7-OH or tianeptine may experience challenges related to dependence and withdrawal. As a result, **physician practices and health care facilities may receive an increase in patient calls or visits related to dependence or withdrawal from these substances.**

The Pennsylvania Department of Health published a Health Advisory: [Increased Risk of Withdrawal Symptoms Associated with 7-hydroxymitragynine \(7-OH\) and Tianeptine After Federal Scheduling](#).

Situation Summary:

- The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has issued two notices of intent to schedule:
 - [three 7-hydroxymitragynine-related substances](#): mitragynine pseudoindoxyl, MGM-15, MGM-16
 - [tianeptine](#)
- Both 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) and tianeptine products are available through online and retail markets including: gas stations, smoke/vape shops, and convenience stores.
- Both 7-OH and tianeptine products act like opioids in the body and are associated with dependence. Sudden loss of access may lead to consumers experiencing withdrawal symptoms that resemble the symptoms of opioid withdrawal, including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, heavy sweating, aches, pains, insomnia, elevated heart rate and blood pressure, and intense cravings.
- Individuals currently using 7-OH or tianeptine may experience challenges related to dependence and withdrawal, leading them to seek healthcare services.
- Individuals experiencing withdrawal from 7-OH or tianeptine products may transition to a street supply to manage withdrawal symptoms, which may increase risk for overdose.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health recommends health care, behavioral health, substance use disorder, and public health professionals proactively identify and support individuals using 7-OH or tianeptine by screening for use, monitoring for shifts in substance use following market disruption, and connecting affected individuals to treatment and recovery services.

