

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

POISONS AND NARCOTIC DRUGS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1986

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

No. 32 of 1986

The amendments to the Poisons and Narcotic Drugs Ordinance 1978 (the Principal Ordinance) alter the legislation, by repealing Schedules 1-8 of the Principal Ordinance and substituting new Schedules for those which have been repealed, and also incorporating amendments to Schedules 12 and 13 of the Principal Ordinance. These new Schedules and the amendments to Schedules 12 and 13 reflect changes to the National Health and Medical Research Council's Uniform Poisons Standard, which are adopted and published by the National Health and Medical Research Council each half year. The new and amending Schedules continue the practice, wherever practicable, of the ACT Health Authority implementing the National Health and Medical Research Council's Uniform Poisons Standard, by revising the Schedules of drugs published under the Principal Ordinance. With each Schedule is associated a distinct classification of the substances and drugs specified in each Schedule. The effect of listing the substances and drugs in different Schedules is to distinguish each Schedule in terms of the restrictions on availability and danger associated with the supply and use of the substances and drugs specified in the Schedules.

Schedule 1 lists poisons for sale where the purchaser is required to be known to the seller, and which should only be sold by medical practitioners, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons and poisons licence holders. Schedule 2 lists medicinal poisons which should be subject to the same restrictions on sale as those in

Schedule 1 but where the purchaser need not be known to the seller. Schedule 3 lists potent substances which should also be subject to these restrictions but which should in addition be stored out of customers' access. Schedule 4 lists restricted substances which should be supplied on medical, dental or veterinary prescriptions only but which are not addictive.

Schedules 5 and 6 respectively list domestic poisons and industrial and agricultural poisons which should only be sold accompanied by various special warnings and first aid instructions for some of the substances and sold only by licence holders. Schedule 7 lists dangerous poisons which should be subject to special conditions which may vary for each substance.

Schedule 8 lists addictive substances which should only be supplied on medical or veterinary prescription or signed order of an authorised person, and which are subject to special controls by the Medical Officer of Health for long term use.

Schedules 12 and 13 respectively list substances the possession, use or supply of which are generally prohibited, and goods which are specified for the purpose of exempting such goods from restrictions in the possession, supply or use of such goods, notwithstanding that the goods contain a restricted substance.