Tianeptine

What is Tianeptine?

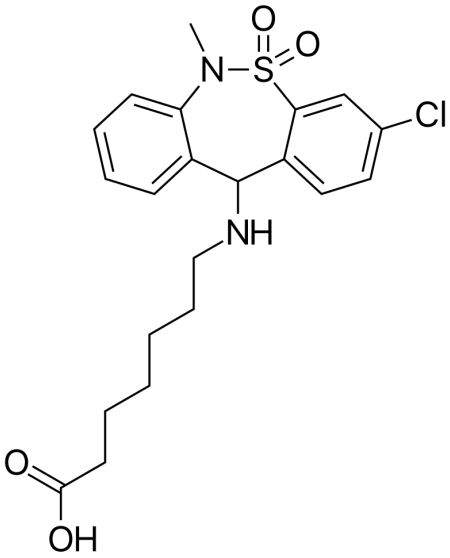
- Street name is“gas station heroin”.
- It is an atypical tricyclic antidepressant which is used mainly in the treatment of major depressive disorder, although it may also be used to treat anxiety, asthma, and irritable bowel syndrome.
- In the United States and Belgium, under the code names JNJ-39823277 and TPI-1062, tianeptine was previously under development for the treatment of major depressive disorder. Phase I clinical trials were completed in May and June 2009, respectively. For unclear reasons development of tianeptine was discontinued in both countries in January 2012. In October 2023, Tonix Pharmaceuticals announced that it had discontinued its development of tianeptine as a mono-therapy for major depressive disorder after disappointing phase-2 clinical trial results.
- It is an opioid, like heroin and morphine.
- Therapeutic doses, between 25 mg and 30 mg, have little abuse risk and do not cause intoxication or euphoria,
- And like other opioids, it’s addictive and potentially deadly. Yet it can be found on store shelves, labeled as a dietary supplement, and anyone can walk in and buy it — including minors.

Tianeptine is also known as:

- Gas-station dope
- Gas-station heroin
- Pegasus
- Tia
- Tiana (Green, Red, or White)
- Tianeptine sulfate
- Tianeptine sodium powder
- TD red
- Zaza

Why is it a concern

- People who abuse tianeptine without a prescription or misuse it by taking larger doses than prescribed seek the effects produced by 100 mg or more.
- Abusing much larger doses of tianeptine has been associated with addiction symptoms, including withdrawal.
- Since tianeptine works on some opioid receptors, quitting the drug may induce symptoms that are similar to withdrawal- from opioid drugs.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has expressed concern that tianeptine may be an "emerging public health risk", citing an increase in exposure-related calls to poison control centers in the United States.

Brand names include:

Coaxil
Salymbra
Stablon
Tatinol
Tianeurax
Tynept
Zinosal