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**COMPLIANCE BULLETIN 97-003**

**TO:** RESPONSIBLE PERSON FOR  
DANGEROUS DRUG DISTRIBUTORS

**DATE:** OCTOBER 22, 1997

**RE:** CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE SCHEDULING OF BUTORPHANOL  
(Stadol® NS™ and Stadol® Injection)

Pursuant to final action by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, **Butorphanol will become a Schedule IV controlled substance on October 31, 1997.**

Butorphanol was placed into Schedule IV as the result of widespread abuse and addiction throughout the United States. Numerous cases of abuse and addiction have also been reported in Ohio. Reasonable care should be used when dispensing these products.

At the opening of business on October 31, 1997, an inventory of all Stadol NS and Stadol injection must be completed. Hospitals and clinics must inventory all stocks of Butorphanol both in the pharmacy and floor stock. This inventory shall be kept with all other required inventories.

As of October 31, 1997, all stocks of Butorphanol shall be maintained in a similar manner as other Schedule III and IV stock.

As of October 31, 1997, all records of administration and/or dispensing shall be kept in accordance with the state and federal requirements for Schedule IV drugs.

In pharmacies, new prescriptions received as of October 31, 1997 shall be filed with Schedule III, IV and V prescriptions, pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Rule 4729-5-09. Hard-copy prescriptions already on file as of October 31, 1997 may remain in the Dangerous Drug files if refills are dispensed pursuant to a computer system. These prescriptions do not need to be refiled in the Schedule III, IV and V files.

Prescriptions already on file for Butorphanol products that have remaining refills shall not be refilled more than an additional five times within the six months following October 31, 1997. All existing prescriptions on file as of October 31, 1997 shall not be refilled after April 1, 1998.

If you have questions, please contact the Board office.

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