
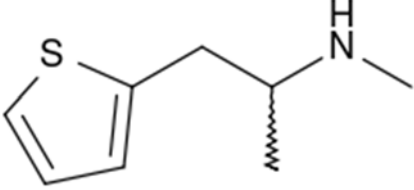


	Substance briefing: MPA
	This technical folder provides information on MPA . The information provided is based on a number of existing data sources and work undertaken as part of the I-TREND project. Research informing the folder includes an analysis of user discussions on popular (insert country name) drug forums, an analysis of marketing on popular (insert country name: e.g. English speaking) web shops selling the substance, and scientific laboratory analysis of the compound through test purchasing of the substance from (insert country name) web shops.
1	Substance name(s)
1.1	Chemical name: Methiopropamine
1.2	Popular/street/slangname(s): MPA, no other names discussed by forum users.
1.3	Other name(s): 1-(thiophen-2-yl)-2-methylaminopropane
1.4	Branded products in which the substance was found following analysis:
1.5	Branded products advertised as containing the substance on web shops: LP, Cristal Blanco Czech web shop analysis found two web shops advertised branded products as containing Methiopropamine substance. The branded product were sold under names such as M&M and SYNTHACAINE.
1.6	Branded products discussed as containing the substance on drug forums: No branded product discussed as possibly containing MPA
2.	Classification and effect

2.1	<p>Classification and effect confirmed through substance analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathinones
2.2	<p>Classification and effect referred to by users of drug forums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other: Classified as thiophen by forum users
2.3	<p>Classification and effect used in the marketing of the product on web shops</p> <p>1.1. The Methiopropamine was classified as a research chemical according to an analysis of Czech web shops in two web shops. The web shops' analysis found one web shop classified Methiopropamine more specifically as a thiophene.</p> <p>1.2. Direct Information about effects was not provided by any web shop. One web shop used indirect information about effects. The web shop described Methiopropamine as a 'structural analog of methamphetamine'</p> <p>NB: See reference list for sources related to classification (e.g. pharmacological studies, case studies, etc...)</p>
3	<p>Potential risks associated with use of the substance</p>
3.1	<p>General risks associated with the substance:</p> <p>When MPA is combined with certain other drugs (for example aminoindanes, such as MDAI or 5-iAi) the user is placed at risk of serotonin toxicity. This can be fatal if not dealt with quickly. Symptoms include hyperthermia (overheating), hyperreflexia (over responsive reflexes), clonus (involuntary muscular contractions and relaxations), hypertension (high blood pressure), dysphoria (mental distress) and mydriasis (dilated pupils). Due to muscle tension being triggered by the condition, potential of developing rhabdomyolysis (muscle tissue breakdown) which can cause severe kidney damage and can be fatal. It is therefore dangerous to restrain individuals; as increased agitation will lead to increased muscle tension trying to break free from restraints.</p> <p>Unpleasant psychological effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Unpleasant physical effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Assumed risks due to similarity to other substances:</p>

	•								
3.2	<p>Users point of view on the substance and risk perception</p> <p>MPA was discussed by forum users and considered a medium strong stimulant with some euphoric effects. Some users claim that there is no need to binge the dose, some users claim that there is an urge to re-dose and boost effects, therefore they think this substance could have a dependence potential.</p>								
4	Legal status and identification of the substance								
4.1	Legal status/acts/laws in Czech Republic: MPA is not controlled substance in Czech Republic.								
4.2	<p>List of first identification and reporting to the EMCDDA by a national Reitox Focal Points</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>Dates</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Czech Republic - 2012</td> <td>4 g seizure reported</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Country	Dates			Czech Republic - 2012	4 g seizure reported		
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5	Photographs of the substance								
5.1	<p>Photograph of the substance purchased for laboratory analysis:</p> 								
5.2	Photo/Printscreen of the product from the webshop:								

6	Chemistry																														
6.1	Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) registry number: 801156-47-8																														
6.2	Chemical information: Methylthienylpropamine (MPA) is a thiophene analogue of (meth)amphetamine, which was originally synthesised by Blicke and Burckhalter in 1942.																														
6.2	Structure (picture of structural formula) 																														
6.3	Molecular mass 155.161 g/mol																														
6.4	Structural comparison with a related substance Methiopropamine																														
6.5	(Insert pictures of developed formula of this original substance)																														
7	Analytical composition: results of substance analysis carried out from the sample purchased online.																														
7.1	<p>Details of laboratory analysis technique used:</p> <p>Mean (%) = (sd.= .) (N sample analysed)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Webshop</th> <th>Country (IP address)</th> <th>Country (package origin)</th> <th>Form</th> <th>Substance named on package/webshop</th> <th>Confirmed substances</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>benzofury</td> <td>6 APB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Mephedrone</td> <td>Mephedrone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Webshop	Country (IP address)	Country (package origin)	Form	Substance named on package/webshop	Confirmed substances	1				benzofury	6 APB	1				Mephedrone	Mephedrone	2						2					
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8	Price and marketing strategies on Czech web shops selling the substance										
8.1											
8.2	<p>Description of availability and marketing strategies on Czech web shops selling the substance:</p> <p>The Methiopropamine was available to purchase (28.5.2015) in 3 web shops where substance was found .</p> <p>Czech web shop marketing analysis indicated two shops which offered discount for orders. First shop offered discount for all customers. The average level of first discount was 15%. Second web shop offered new customers only. The average level of first discount was £5.</p> <p>Special discount for Methiopropamine substance was provided by one web shop.</p> <p>Free gift was promoted by one web shop, free gift conditions were limited to a minimum order of over £50.00 per transaction and shop offered £10 free gift voucher for entitled products.</p> <p>Free shipping was offering on two web shops. The guarantee of “free reship” for orders was provided by two web shops. The same day dispatch was supported by two web shops.</p>										

	<p>Information about 'new' products was mentioned on two web shops.</p> <p>Loyalty program or Reward Point program for customers was not available on any web shop.</p> <p>Customer reviews was supported on two web shops.</p>								
8.3	<p>Type of Czech websites selling the product</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>No of shops (28.5.2015)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>RC shops</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commercial shops</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No of shops (28.5.2015)	RC shops	3	Commercial shops	0	Other	0
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8.4	<p>Number of webshops available for Czech Republic with supposed country of origin in the EU selling the products</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>No of web shops</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>CZ address or phone number on web sites</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Web shops with CZ IP code</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Web shops <i>with supposed country of origin in the EU</i>¹</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No of web shops	CZ address or phone number on web sites	1	Web shops with CZ IP code	0	Web shops <i>with supposed country of origin in the EU</i> ¹	3
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9	Law enforcement and health data								
9.1	<p>Number of law enforcement seizures in Czech Republic in 2013/2014: In 2013 there was 1/8,5g seizure reported in Czech republic and next year there was 1/1200 g seizure.</p>								
9.2	<p>EMCDDA health alerts in Czech Republic. On January 2012 there was EMCDDA health alert in Czech Republic.</p>								

¹ Including web shops with CZ address or phone number on web sites

9.2	Confirmed deaths and acute cases reported in Czech Republic. In Czech Republic there was not even a case of acute character nor death connected with MPA.
10	<p><u>User experiences of the substance: results from an analysis of discussions Czech Drug Forums</u></p> <p>Methodological comment: The information below is based on an analysis of 2 drug forums, 27 forum posts and 14 forum users.</p>
10.1	<p>Dosage specified by drug forum users (n = 9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Initial Dosing: As initial “weak” dosing amount of 30 mgs was mentioned on drug forums. (n=1)</i> • <i>Boosting: One user describes urge to redose and boost the effects. The dosing of boosting doses was not described. (n= 1)</i> • <i>Threshold: With 30mgs hardly any stimulation and euphoria was felt. (n= 1). 50 mgs quoted as dose already providing some effects (n=1).</i> • <i>Light: 40 -50 – 80 – 100 mgs described as dose where you start to feel effects. More intense stimulation and euphoria appear on higher doses (n= 4)</i> • <i>Common: Usually doses ranging from 50-200mgs are mentioned as common dose. 50-200mgs are recommended to use on one occasion. The effect of similar doses can vary and it is explained by different quality of product from various retailers (n=3).</i> • <i>Strong: Strong dose is described as 500-750 mgs, where effects are stronger (especially when product was considered as weaker than usual or from the other shops). No overdosing on these doses was observed. (n=2)</i>
10.2	<p>Duration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Onset: Onset described as fast but time was not specified (n =2)</i> • <i>Coming up: Duration of the effects described as lasting for approx. 2 hours (n=3)</i> • <i>Plateau: It is reached after 2 hours; its duration was not discussed. (n =0)</i> • <i>Coming down: After 2 hours from use the effects are wearing off. One user describes ability to fall asleep after 30 minutes from time when the effects started to come down (n=2)</i> • <i>After effects :No very unpleasant effects described, ability to sleep and lack of unpleasant after effects were appreciated (n =2). Two users describe a big urge to redose (n=2), two users</i>

	<p><i>claim that there was no urge to redose and that they had no problem to end the session (n=2).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hangover/Day after: No hangover the day after was described, sleeping is possible (n =3)</i>
10.3	<p>Effects reported by forum users (n = 15)</p> <p><i>Physical effects</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Stimulation</i> ○ <i>Energy</i> ○ <i>Tingling of head</i> ○ <i>Migraine</i> ○ <i>Tachycardia</i> ○ <i>Nausea, esp. when combined with alcohol</i> <p><i>Psychological effects</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Lower euphoria(can be reached by combo with alcohol or with higher doses)</i> ○ <i>Aphrodisiac effects</i> ○ <i>Good mood</i> ○ <i>Higher activity</i> ○ <i>Mood for doing things</i> ○ <i>Lower appetite</i> ○ <i>Depressions</i> ○ <i>Ability to fall asleep</i> <p><i>Sought/expected</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Stimulation</i> <p><i>Desired</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Fast onset of effects, lack of after effects, ability to fall asleep</i> <p><i>Undesired</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Nausea, migraine, depressions (happens rarely)</i>
10.4	<p>Tolerance</p> <p><i>Users do not provide much data on tolerance (n=0).</i></p>
10.5	<p>Route of administration (n =5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ingestion: Three users describe ingestion of substance, usually dissolved powder in a drink (n =3)</i> • <i>Snorting: Four users describe snorting of substance, no unpleasant pain was discussed (n =4)</i> • <i>Rectal: This ROA of MPA was not mentioned in Czech drug forums (n =0)</i> • <i>Inhalation or insufflation: Two users describe smoking of the substance with head tingling effect (n =2)</i>
10.6	<p>Others substances referred to in discussion about (insert drug</p>

	<p>name)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Referred to in comparing the effects:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>MPA effects compared to methamphetamine. MPA is lighter stimulant with less euphoria and much less after effects than methamphetamine (n=3)</i> ○ <i>MPA compared to cocaine (n=1)</i> ○ <i>MPA compared to amphetamines in stimulation effect (n=3)</i> ○ <i>Euphoric effects are less intense than at cathinones (n=1)</i> ○ <i>After effects like anxiety and depressions compared as much lighter than at Funky product (n=2)</i> • <i>Referred to as increasing the effects:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Alcohol increases the euphoric effects but can also cause nausea (n =2)</i> ○ <i>Used in combo with 3-MMC where effects of both substances connected and effects were more stimulating and euphoric (n=1)</i> • <i>Referred to in managing come down: Not mentioned on Czech drug forums (n =0)</i> • <i>Other substance discussed in the same episode/combo:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Two users report use of alcohol during MPA use. Described as pleasant but heavy on stomach (n =2)</i> ○ <i>Combo with 3-MMC (n=1)</i> <p><i>Referred to as an agonist/ antagonist : Not mentioned on Czech drug forums (n =0)</i></p>
<p>10.7</p>	<p>Appearance and preparation (n =2)</p> <p>Product was sold in form of powder. One retailer sold white-grey powder with strong Sulphur smell (described as more potent) and other retailer sold brown powder with different smell (no smell of Sulphur) and this product was described as less potent but with milder and calmer effects.</p>
<p>10.8</p>	<p>Patterns of use/Frequency of use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Use of 1 gram in 3 days of consecutive use was reported (n=1)</i> • <i>500mgs and more could be used in one day due to urge to redose (n=1)</i>

10.9	<p>Context of consumption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used at home(n=4) • Used for studying or work (n=3)
10.10	<p>User's views and experiences on the online market</p> <p><i>Forum members discussed different quality of MPA that differed from one supplier to another. One product was considered as more potent but more expensive, other product from second retailer was without sulphur smell and was considered as less potent but milder. Forum users are discussing reliability and quality of products from the second retailer. Price of the product differs but product from the first retailer was rated as more stable and reliable.</i></p>
10.11	<p>Harm reduction Message</p> <p>Warning about possible dependence potential and urge for a binge use was disseminated by the forum users, unpleasant nausea after combination with alcohol can also occur. Users are worried about content of sulphur in the substance and whether it could be toxic for body at long term use.</p>
10.12	<p>User profile</p> <p><i>Forum users discussing MPA were mostly looking for a reliable supplier of this substance with a good quality of the product, because the quality differed from supplier to supplier. Some users appreciated pure stimulation with little euphoria that allowed them to study or work. Mild after effects were appreciated. Frequent comparison to methamphetamine could be describing MPA as lighter substituent to methamphetamine for users of these substances.</i></p>
11	<p>Useful resources and literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MPA