

This question will be considered in our discussion as will the possibility of imposing further restrictions on the distribution of some or all of these products.

Of the series, methamphetamine and amphetamine are the most powerful central nervous system stimulants. The stimulant actions of one of these, amphetamine, were first described by Alles in 1933. In 1935 Prinzmetal and Bloomberg initiated clinical use of amphetamine for the treatment of narcolepsy, a disease characterized by inability to stay awake. Since that time, amphetamine products have been employed for a variety of conditions including chronic fatigue, parkinsonism, epilepsy, childhood hyperkinesis and poisoning by CNS depressants. Of course, the most popular use of amphetamine products today is in the treatment of obesity.

Of the various clinical applications, experts still consider amphetamine as valuable in the treatment of patients with narcolepsy and for children with hyperkinesis in selected cases. This condition is very prevalent - experts estimating that some 5% of our children are affected to some degree. One of my children, for example, exhibited sufficient hyperactivity, lack of attention span, and associated behavioral problems to require therapy. Similar symptoms were exhibited by some of my other children and drug therapy might have been useful. In retrospect, I probably also presented similar symptoms during childhood. Hyperkinesis in children