

TABLE 3.—COMPARISON OF PROPOXYPHENE WITH OTHER DRUGS; ASSOCIATIONS WITH EMERGENCY ROOM (ER) MENTIONS AND CORONER MENTIONS (DEATHS), 1977¹

Drug	Total prescriptions (millions)	Emergency room mentions	Coroner mentions	Coroner mentions		
				Coroner mentions/emergency room mentions	Coroner mentions/million prescriptions	Rank: Coroner mentions/million prescriptions
Barbiturates:						
Secobarbital.....	1.2	2, 457	350	0.14	292	3
Pentobarbital.....	1.3	946	272	.29	209	4
Secobarb/amobarb.....	1.0	3, 093	326	.11	326	2
Amobarbital.....	.3	130	123	.95	410	1
Phenobarbital.....	7.8	2, 989	254	.08	32.6	9
Benzodiazepines:						
Diazepam.....	53.6	21, 678	418	.02	7.8	18
Chlordiazepoxide.....	13.0	3, 411	54	.02	4.2	22
Flurazepam.....	13.6	4, 643	80	.02	5.9	19
Other sedative/hypnotics:						
Meprobamate.....	8.2	1, 238	95	.08	11.6	16
Methaqualone.....	1.0	2, 405	62	.03	62.0	6
Ethchlorvynol.....	1.7	2, 202	135	.06	79.4	5
Glutethimide.....	1.8	639	94	.15	52.2	7
Chloral hydrate.....	2.0	618	35	.06	17.5	13
Tranquilizers/antidepressants:						
Trifluoperazine.....	3.0	1, 072	6	.01	2.0	24
Thioridazine.....	6.8	2, 175	74	.03	10.9	17
Chlorpromazine.....	4.7	2, 404	64	.03	13.6	15
Amtriptyline.....	9.0	3, 281	386	.12	42.9	8
Imipramine.....	4.6	921	74	.08	16.1	14
Doxepin.....	4.1	1, 397	104	.07	25.4	10
Haloperidol.....	1.6	1, 058	3	.01	1.9	25
Analgesics:						
Morphine.....	.6	134	0	-----	-----	-----
Codeine and codeine compounds.....	49.8	3, 597	274	.08	5.5	20
Fiorinal.....	7.5	1, 204	0	-----	-----	-----
Fiorinal with codeine.....	2.3	130	1	.01	.43	26
Pentazocine.....	3.5	1, 079	71	.07	20.3	11
Pentazocine compound.....	.7	4	0	-----	-----	-----
Aspi-in.....	NA	7, 184	156	.02	-----	-----
Acetaminophen.....	NA	2, 559	77	.03	-----	-----
Propoxyphene.....	33.5	4, 179	607	.15	18.1	12
Other:						
Diphenhydramine.....	10.8	1, 113	23	.02	2.1	23
Diphenylhydantoin.....	8.6	2, 271	41	.02	4.9	21
Methapyrilene/scopolamine (OTC).....	NA	1, 725	1	-----	-----	-----

¹ Source: DAWN and NPA data.TABLE 4.—COMPARISON OF PROPOXYPHENE WITH OTHER DRUG GROUPINGS; ASSOCIATIONS WITH DEATHS, 1977¹

Drug group	Total prescriptions	Coroner mentions	Coroner mentions/million prescriptions	Group rank
Barbiturates ² (Secobarbital, pentobarbital, amobarbital, and seco/amobarbital.)	3.8	1,071	282.0	1
Other sedative/hypnotics ² (Methaqualone, ethchlorvynol, glutethimide, and chloral hydrate.)	6.5	326	50.0	2
Benzodiazepines..... (Diazepam, flurazepam, and chlordiazepoxide.)	80.2	552	7.0	6
Major tranquilizers..... (Chlorpromazine, thioridazine, trifluoperazine, and haloperidol.)	16.1	147	9.0	5
Antidepressants..... (Amitriptyline, imipramine, and doxepin.)	17.7	564	32.0	3
Other common prescription analgesics..... (Fiorinal with or without codeine, codeine with or without other analgesics, and pentazocine with or without other analgesics.)	63.8	346	5.0	7
Propoxyphene with or without other analgesics.....	33.5	607	18.1	4

¹ Source: DAWN and NPA data.² Phenobarbital and meprobamate were intentionally excluded since their predominant use, as anticonvulsant and "muscle relaxant," respectively, differs from other drugs in the same pharmacologic category.