

**INFORMATION**  
**ON THE SUBJECT OF IMPORTING OR EXPORTING MEDICINES FOR THEIR OWN**  
**MEDICAL USE**  
**BY TRAVELLERS WHO, DURING THEIR TREATMENT PROCESS,**  
**CROSS THE BORDERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

Dear Sirs,

I would like to inform you that the act of September 6<sup>th</sup> 2001 Pharmaceutical Law (Journal of Laws No. 45, pos. 271 as amended) and the statute of the Minister of Health *in the matter of specific conditions and method of giving permissions to import and export narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and I-R group precursors and documents permitting these to be transported abroad for personal medical use* (Journal of Laws 2003, No. 36, pos. 316) comprehensively deal with the import of medicines by travellers.

The abovementioned act states in art. 68 that there is no requirement for the agreement of the proper minister for health affairs in respect of the bringing of a medicinal product from abroad for personal treatment use in a quantity not exceeding five of the smallest packages. However, this does not apply to *narcotic drugs* and psychotropic substances, whose import from abroad is covered by the regulations of the act of July 29<sup>th</sup> 2005 on counteracting drug addiction (Journal of Laws No 179, pos. 1485, as amended), and veterinary medicinal products for animals from which tissues or products destined for utilisation by humans are produced.

In accordance with § 6 par 1 of the Regulation, persons afflicted with conditions listed in the regulations published on the basis of art. 39 para. 2 of the act of February 6<sup>th</sup> 1997 on universal health insurance or the use of substitute treatment, who cross the border of the Republic of Poland, may transfer treatment products with *narcotic drugs* from group I-N or psychotropic substances from group II-P for their own use on condition that the quantity does not exceed that required for two weeks of treatment, after presenting a medical certificate confirmed by the Voivodship inspector proper to the registered place of residence of the sick person or, in the case of foreigners – the organ in their country which is proper to the supervision over the use of group I-N *narcotic drugs* or group II-P psychotropic substances.

In the case of medicines including in their ingredients substances controlled by the regulations of the act on counteracting drug addiction, the abovementioned regulation of the Minister of Health applies. In accordance with § 6 para. 2 of this regulation, persons crossing the border of the Republic of Poland may carry preparations of *narcotic drugs* of group II-N 2

and III-N, psychotropic substances of groups III-P or IV-P or precursors of group I-R, for their own treatment use on condition that the quantity does not exceed that required for two weeks of use, after showing a medical certificate. A template medical certificate is provided as an appendix to this information sheet.

The above regulation in reference to preparations with III-N group *narcotic drugs* or I-R group precursors does not include over-the-counter medications sold by chemists without prescription. In this case, the legal regulation concerning five of the smallest registered packages applies.

In other cases, the transfer across the border of the Republic of Poland of group I-N, II-N and III-N *narcotic drugs*, and II-P, III-P and IV-P psychotropic substances, or I-R group precursors requires the agreement of the Chief Pharmaceutical Inspector.

This agreement is published in Polish and English after considering an application containing:

- 1 ) name, surname, and exact address of the applicant;
- 2 ) the name of the preparation, pharmaceutical form, dosage and number of doses;
- 3 ) the time period between the border crossings of the Republic of Poland during which the preparation will be used

The application should also contain medical documentation informing of the necessity of using the preparation. After crossing the borders of the Republic of Poland, at the request of the appropriate services, the medical documentation informing of the necessity of using the preparation should be shown as well as the agreement published by the Chief Pharmaceutical Inspector.