

Guidance for Travellers under Treatment Carrying Personal Medications Containing Narcotic Drugs/Psychotropic Substances out of Thailand

This guidance issued by the Narcotics Control Division, Food and Drug Administration, provides travellers under medical treatment with current regulations concerning the transport of personal medications containing narcotic drugs of Category 2, or psychotropic substances of Categories 2, 3, and 4.

The transport of any medications into/out of Thailand for personal use may be subject to a range of stringent import and export controls.

The import and export of narcotics and/or psychotropic substances into/out of Thailand are general prohibited. Those travellers under treatment who need to carry medications containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances into/out of Thailand must follow the applicable regulations strictly.

1. Carrying Personal Medications out of Thailand

A. Medications containing narcotic drugs of category 2

The Ministry of Public Health issued the Ministerial Regulation B.E. 2552 (2009) under the Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 (1979), amended by the Narcotics Act B.E. 2545 (2002). It became effective on September 29, 2009. According to the new regulation, travelers out of Thailand under medical treatment are allowed to carry medications containing narcotic drugs of Category 2 for personal treatment in **a quantity not exceeding 30 days of prescribed usage** and must follow the applicable regulations strictly.

Travellers under treatment of these medications are required to obtain a permit (Form OC-2) issued by the Food and Drug Administration **before travelling out of Thailand.**

The quantity of the medication transported out of Thailand **must not exceed 30 days of prescribed usage.**

The permit (Form OC-2) is applicable for patients treated by physicians in Thailand who would like to carry medications containing narcotic drugs in category 2 for personal use out of Thailand. Form OC-2 also covers the remaining medication of those patients when they return to Thailand.

To request for the permit, please apply using online service on

<http://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/> **at least two weeks before the departure date.** The **original copies of the documents must still be sent by post - airmail** if possible

The following documents must be submitted:

- 1.1 Application form (Form OC-1)
- 1.2 Copy of passport
- 1.3 Medical prescription written by the physician who provided the medical treatment, which must contain the following:
 - ◆ the name and address of the patient
 - ◆ the identified medical condition
 - ◆ the name of the medications and the reason that those medications were prescribed for the patient's treatment
 - ◆ the posology and total amount of medications prescribed
 - ◆ the name, address, and license number of the prescribing physician

The category of substances can be searched from

<http://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/>

Examples of narcotic drugs in Category 2 according to The Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 (1979),: Codeine, Dextropropoxyphene, Dihydrocodeine, Fentanyl, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Methadone, Morphine, Oxycodone and, Pethidine.

B. Medications containing psychotropic substances of categories 2, 3, and 4

According to the Psychotropic Substances Act B.E. 2518 (1975), Travellers out of Thailand under treatment are allowed to transport medications containing psychotropic substances of Categories 2, 3, and 4 for personal treatment in **a quantity not exceeding 30 days of prescribed usage** when accompanied by a certificate/medical prescription from the prescribing physician.

The certificate/medical prescription from the prescribing physician must indicate:

- ◆ the name and address of the patient
- ◆ the identified medical condition
- ◆ the name of the medications and the reason that those medications were prescribed for the patient's treatment
- ◆ the posology and total amount of medications prescribed

- ◆ the name, address, and license number of the prescribing physician

The quantity of the medications carried out of Thailand **must not exceed 30 days of prescribed usage. The permit from Thai FDA is not required.**

Examples of psychotropic substances in Categories 2, 3, and 4 according to the Psychotropic Substances Act B.E. 2518 (1975):

Category 2: Buprenorphine, Methylphenidate, Midazolam, Nitrazepam, Phentermine, Temazepam, Triazolam, Zolpidem.

Category 3: Pentazocine.

Category 4: Bromazepam, Chlordiazepoxide, Clonazepam, Clorazepate, Diazepam, Oxazepam, Lorazepam, Phenobarbital.

2. Prohibited Medications Containing Narcotic Drugs/ Psychotropic Substances in Thailand

With the exception of medications containing narcotic drugs of Category 2 under the Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 (1979) or psychotropic substances of Categories 2, 3, and 4 under the Psychotropic Substances Act B.E. 2518 (1975) described above, the importation/exportation of medications containing narcotic drugs/psychotropic substances into/out of Thailand is prohibited.

Examples of the medications that Travellers are forbidden from transporting into/out of Thailand:

Narcotic drugs:

Narcotic drugs of Category 1 and 5 under The Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 (1979), e.g. Amphetamine, Dexamphetamine, Cannabis, etc. These substances are prohibited and have been determined to have no medical use in Thailand.

Psychotropic substances:

Psychotropic substances of Category 1 under The Psychotropic Substances Act B.E. 2518 (1975) e.g. Cathinone, Dronabinol, and GHB. These substances are prohibited and have been determined to have no medical use in Thailand.

4. Advice for Travellers out of Thailand carrying Medications

- ◆ Those travellers carrying **medications containing narcotics of category 2 are required to declare the medications** they are carrying into/out of Thailand.

Please have all medications and documents prepared and available for inspection:

- Entry into Thailand: you must present the medications/documents at the Customs Dept. Red Channel
- Exit from Thailand: you must present the medications/documents at the Customs Dept. official upon request
- ◆ Those travellers carrying all other medications out of Thailand (including medications containing psychotropic substances of Categories 2, 3, and 4) do not have to declare their medications at the Customs Dept. Red Channel if the medication is for personal treatment in **a quantity not exceeding 30 days of prescribed usage** and accompanied by a certificate/medical prescription from the prescribing physician. Those medications are then considered personal belongings.
- ◆ The medications must be kept in the original prescription bottles with the contents clearly marked.
- ◆ Travellers are forbidden to sell or supply their medications to others.
- ◆ As requirements concerning medications may change, travellers should check the requirements on <http://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/> for the importation/exportation of medications prior to each visit.

5.) For more information

The information here provides general guidance for Travellers to Thailand carrying personal medications containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances.

The travellers can find more information from the website below.

<http://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/>

If you have any questions, please email your inquiry to the Narcotics Control Division, Food and Drug Administration, or contact us as follows:

Email: tnarcotics@fda.moph.go.th

Fax: (66) 2591 8471

Telephone: (66) 2590 7346

Appendix A: Model Form of a Certificate for the Carrying by Travellers under Treatment of Medical Preparations Containing Narcotic Drugs and/or Psychotropic Substances

[according to [International guidelines for national regulations concerning travellers under treatment with internationally controlled drugs](#)]

A. Country and place of Issue

Country:

Place of issue:

Date of issue:

Period of validity: [A three month period of validity from the date of issue is recommended.]

B. Prescribing physician

Last name, first name:

Address:

Phone: country code, local code, number

Number of license:

C. Patient

Last name, first name:

Sex:

Place of birth:

Date of birth:

Home address:

Number of passport or of identity card:

Intended country of destination:

D. Prescribed medical preparation

Trade name of drug (or its composition):

Dosage form:

Number of units (tablets, ampoules etc.):

International name of the active substance:

Concentration of active substance:

Total quantity of active substance:

Instructions for use:

Duration of prescription in days:

Remarks:

E. Issuing authority

Official designation (name) of the authority:

Address:

Phone: country code, local code, number

Official seal of the authority:

Signature of responsible officer: