

Guidance for Travelers under Treatment Carrying Personal Medications Containing Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances out of Thailand

This guidance, issued by the Narcotics Control Division of the Food and Drug Administration, provides travelers undergoing medical treatment with information on current regulations regarding the transport of personal medications containing narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III, or psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV, as defined by the Narcotics Code.

The transport of any medications 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 psychotropic substances into or out of Thailand are generally prohibited. Travelers undergoing treatment who need to carry medications containing these substances must strictly adhere to the applicable regulations.

With the exception of medications containing narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III or psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV under the Narcotics Code, the importation and exportation of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances into or out of Thailand are prohibited, including postal parcels.

A. Carrying Personal Medications out of Thailand

1. Medications containing narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III

The Ministry of Public Health issued the Ministerial Regulation B.E. 2567 (2024), which took effect on September 21, 2024, under the Narcotics Code. According to the regulation, travelers leaving Thailand who are under medical treatment are allowed to carry medications containing narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III for personal use, provided the quantity does **not exceed a 90-day supply as prescribed**. They must adhere strictly to the applicable regulations.

Travelers undergoing treatment with these medications are required to obtain a permit (Form OC-2) issued by the Food and Drug Administration **at least 15 days before traveling out of Thailand**.

The permit (Form OC-2) is for patients treated by physicians in Thailand who wish to carry medications containing narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III for personal use when traveling out of Thailand. It also covers any remaining medication when the patients return to Thailand.

To request the permit, please apply online at https://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/nct_permit_main/ at least 15 days before your departure date. After receiving your completed online application, we will process it and issue the permit within approximately 3 working days.

We recommend that travelers use a PC or laptop to complete the online application, as it cannot be done on a mobile phone. Additionally, please use the Chrome browser for submission. Once the permit is granted, it will be sent to you by email.

Travelers are required to print out the permit or show the electronic file on their mobile phone. They must also present the medications, permit, and medical documents at the red channel at Thai airport customs upon request.

Travelers do not need to send the original documents to the Thai FDA. Please keep the original documents with you while traveling.

The following documents must be submitted with the online application:

1.1 Copy of passport

1.2 A medical prescription or medical document signed by the physician who provided the treatment, which must include the following:

- The name and address of the patient
- The diagnosed medical condition
- The names of the medications, their strengths, instructions for use, and the reason they were prescribed for the patient's treatment.
- The dosage and total amount of medications prescribed
- The name, address, and license number of the prescribing physician

The schedule of substances can be searched from

https://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/nct_permit_main/

Examples of narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III according to the Narcotics Code:

Schedule II: Codeine, Dihydrocodeine, Diphenoxylate, Fentanyl, Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Methadone, Morphine, Oxycodone, Pethidine, Tapentadol, Tilidine.

Schedule III: narcotic drugs in the form of medicinal preparations and mix of narcotic drug in Schedule II, due to, as the Rules that the Minister of Public Health by recommend of the Narcotics Commission, notify as prescribed.

2. Medications containing psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV

2.1 A quantity not exceeding a 30-day supply as prescribed

According to the Narcotics Code, travelers leaving Thailand who are under treatment are allowed to bring medications containing psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV for personal use, provided the quantity does **not exceed a 30-day supply as prescribed** and is accompanied by a certificate or medical prescription from the prescribing physician. This includes travelers with animals that are under treatment.

The certificate or medical prescription from the prescribing physician must include the details specified in section 1.2.

2.2 A quantity for a duration of 31 to 90 days of prescribed use

The Ministry of Public Health issued Ministerial Regulation B.E. 2567 (2024) under the Narcotics Code. According to this regulation, travelers to Thailand who are under medical treatment are permitted to carry medications containing psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV for personal use, provided the quantity does **not exceed a 31 to 90-day supply as prescribed**. Travelers must adhere strictly to the applicable regulations. Travelers under treatment of these medications are required to obtain a permit (Form OC-2) issued by the Food and Drug Administration before traveling to Thailand at least 15 days. This includes travelers with animals that are under treatment.

To request the permit, it is the same as for medications containing narcotic drugs Schedule II and III.

Examples of psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV according to the Narcotics Code:

Schedule II: Alprazolam, Brotizolam, Buprenorphine, Estazolam, Flunitrazepam, Flurazepam, Loprazolam, Lorcaserin, Lormetazepam, Methylphenidate, Midazolam, Nimetazepam, Nitrazepam, Phentermine, Pseudoephedrine, Temazepam, Triazolam, Zolpidem, Zopiclone.

Schedule III: Amobarbital, Butalbital, Cyclobarbitol, Glutethimide, Meprobamate, Pentazocine, Pentobarbital.

Schedule IV: Barbital, Bromazepam, Chlordiazepoxide, Clobazam, Clonazepam, Clorazepate, Delorazepam, Diazepam, Etizolam, Oxazepam, Lorazepam, Medazepam, Phenobarbital, Pinazepam, Prazepam.

B. Prohibited Medications Containing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in Thailand

With the exception of medications containing narcotic drugs in Schedule II and III under the Narcotics Code or psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV under the Narcotics Code, the importation and exportation of medications containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances out of Thailand is prohibited.

Examples of the medications that Travelers are forbidden from transporting out of Thailand:

Narcotic drugs classified under Schedule I and V of the Narcotics Code, such as amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, and others. These substances are prohibited and have been classified as having no medical use in Thailand.

Psychotropic substances classified under Schedule I of the Narcotics Code, such as cathinone, dronabinol, GHB, Psilocin, and others. These substances are prohibited and have been classified as having no medical use in Thailand.

C. Advice for Travelers Carrying Medications Out of Thailand

1. Travelers carrying medications containing narcotics in Schedule II and III or psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV are required to declare these medications upon exiting Thailand. Please have all medications and documents prepared and available for inspection:

- Upon exiting Thailand, you must present any remaining medications and documents at the Customs Department upon request.

- Upon entry into Thailand, you must present the medications and documents at the Customs Department (Red Channel).

2. Travelers carrying all other medications out of Thailand, including those containing psychotropic substances in Schedule II, III, and IV, do not need to declare their medications at the Customs Department (Red Channel) if the medication is for personal use, in a quantity not exceeding a 30-day supply, and accompanied by a certificate or medical prescription from the prescribing physician. Such medications are then considered personal belongings. The prescription or certificate should be kept with the traveler throughout their stay in Thailand.

3. All related documents should be kept with the travelers during their trip.

4. Medications must be stored in their original prescription bottles, with the contents clearly labeled.

5. Travelers to Thailand are prohibited from selling or supplying their medications to others.
6. Travelers should not assume that medications legal in other countries are also approved for use in Thailand, as they may be illegal there. If a traveler's medications are prohibited from import into Thailand, they should consult their doctor to find alternative medications.
7. Since requirements concerning medications may change, travelers should check the latest regulations for the importation and exportation of medications at https://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/nct_permit_main/ before each visit.
8. If you have obtained a permit to bring medications out of Thailand, you will not need a separate permit to take them into Thailand when you return to Thailand.

D. For more information

This information provides general guidance for travelers to Thailand carrying personal medications containing narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances. For more details, please visit the website below.

https://permitfortraveler.fda.moph.go.th/nct_permit_main/

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

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