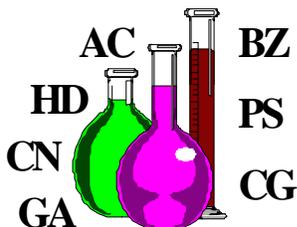


U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine



*General Facts About Psychedelic Agent 3-
Quinuclidinyl Benzilate
(BZ)*

218-40-1096

General

BZ is an incapacitating agent that has the predominant effect of depressing or blocking the activity of the central nervous system. The chemical BZ, also known as “agent buzz” was produced at Pine Bluff Arsenal between 1962 and 1965. It was dropped from the chemical arsenal because its effects on enemy front-line troops would be varied and unpredictable.

Synonyms

Benzilic Acid, 3-Quinuclidinyl ester;
3-Hydroxyquinuclidine benzilate;
3-Oxyquinuclidine benzilate;
3-Quinuclidinylbenzilate;
beta-Quinuclidinyl benzilate;
BZ;
EA2277.

Description

BZ is an odorless white crystalline solid. BZ causes excessive nervous activity, often by “boosting” or facilitating transmission of impulses that might otherwise be insufficient to cross certain synapses. The effect is to “flood” the brain with too much information, making concentration difficult and causing indecisiveness and inability to act in a sustained, purposeful manner.

Overexposure Effects

BZ is a very potent psychoactive chemical affecting the central nervous system as well as the organs of circulation, digestion, salivation, sweating, and vision. Its pharmacological action is similar to that of other anticholinergic drugs (e.g., atropine, scopolamine, etc.), but longer lasting. Acute exposure produces increased heart and respiratory rates; mydriasis; mouth, skin, and lip dryness; cycloplegia; high temperature; ataxia; flushing of face and neck; hallucinations; stupor; forgetfulness; and confusion. The initial symptoms after ½ to 4 hours of exposure include: dizziness, mouth dryness, and increased heart rate; secondary symptoms, after 3-5 hours of exposure, include: restlessness, involuntary muscular,

movements, rear vision impairment, and total incapacitation; final symptoms, after 6-10 hours of exposure are psychotropic in nature. After 3-4 days, full recovery from BZ intoxication is expected.

Emergency and First Aid Procedures

Inhalation: remove individual from exposure immediately; start resuscitation and administer oxygen if breathing is irregular or has stopped; seek medical attention immediately.

Eye Contact: flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes; do not rub eyes; seek medical attention immediately.

Skin Contact: wash from skin and clothing with water; remove any contaminated clothing; seek medical attention immediately.

Ingestion: do not induce vomiting; seek medical attention immediately.

For more information, contact:
Kenneth E. Williams
USACHPPM
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5422
Commercial (410) 671-2208, DSN: 584-2208
email: kwilliam@aeah1.apgea.army.mil