Mofebutazone Advisory

May 19, 2023

Mofebutazone is an analogue of phenylbutazone exhibiting a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) mechanism of action\(^1\). Mofebutazone does not have FDA approval for use in any species.

In its February 20\(^{th}\) meeting, the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium’s (RMTC) Board of Directors approved a recommendation from its Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) to designate a 4/B classification for the substance Mofebutazone. Subsequently, the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) has approved and assigned a 4/B classification to this substance in its Uniform Classification of Foreign Substances, consistent with other NSAIDs lacking FDA approval.

The FDA has advised the RMTC regarding other non-FDA approved drugs that possession is not permitted, nor is the compounding of a non-FDA approved substances.

It is considered a Banned Substance on the FEI Prohibited Substance List. As it lacks FDA approval, it would be classified as a Banned (S0) Substance by HISA’s Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) regulations, recently approved by the Federal Trade Commission.

**S0. NON-APPROVED SUBSTANCES**

Any pharmacologic substance that is not approved by any governmental regulatory health authority for human or veterinary use within the jurisdiction is prohibited. This prohibition includes drugs under pre-clinical or clinical development, discontinued drugs, and designer drugs (a synthetic analog of a drug that has been altered in a manner that may reduce its detection)...

**ARCI 025-015 Prohibited Practices**

(2) Prohibited Substances and Methods:

(a) The substances and methods listed in the annexed Prohibited List may not be used at any place or time, and may not be possessed on the premises of a racing or training facility under the jurisdiction of the Commission, except as a restricted therapeutic use.

Effective May 22, 2023, a confirmed laboratory finding, possession, or distribution of Mofebutazone constitutes a Doping Violation under HISA’s ADMC regulations.

In those jurisdictions that are not subject to HISA where racing commissions have adopted the Model Rules or comparable language, the possession or a confirmed laboratory finding of Mofebutazone constitutes a violation.

For more information on Mofebutazone, please contact the RMTC at: contactus@rmtcnet.com

\(^1\) Schneider, I., et al., Antioxidative Properties of Phenazone Derivatives; Differentiation between Phenylbutazon and Mofebutazon. Z. Naturforsch. 48c, 552-544. May/June 1993