Classification: Hallucinogen

Background: Propoxyphene is a mildly effective non-opiate narcotic analgesic somewhat less potent than codeine.

Legal Use: Propoxyphene can be legally prescribed to help control moderate pain. It is often supplied mixed with aspirin or acetaminophen.

Legally Obtained with Prescription As: Darvon

Legally Obtained OTC: None

Street Names: Darvon, Darvocet, Wygesic, pinks, footballs, pink footballs, yellow footballs, 65’s and N’s

Detection in Urine: 1–2 days of the parent drug and up to 1 week for the main metabolite, norpropoxyphene, following last dose.

Physiological Effects: Euphoria, mental clouding, drowsiness, miosis, respiratory depression. Prolonged use can lead to physical dependence.

Toxicity: Respiratory depression/failure is the greatest risk associated with propoxyphene use.

Cutoff Levels:
- Immuno-Assay screen test: 300 ng/mL
- LC-MS/MS confirmation test: 300 ng/mL

Mode of Use: Orally

Metabolism: Propoxyphene is mainly converted to nor-propoxyphene and both are eliminated in the urine.