

Emerging Trends Report: Tianeptine

Tianeptine, also known as “gas station heroin”, is a dangerous substance that is not approved for any medical use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). According to the [FDA’s recent warning](#), tianeptine products have been sold with false marketing claims. There is no evidence that tianeptine can improve brain function, treat anxiety or depression, or treat pain or opioid use disorder. Tianeptine is associated with several adverse health effects, such as seizures, respiratory depression, and loss of consciousness. Additionally, there have been several fatal overdose cases reported in Tennessee where tianeptine was involved.

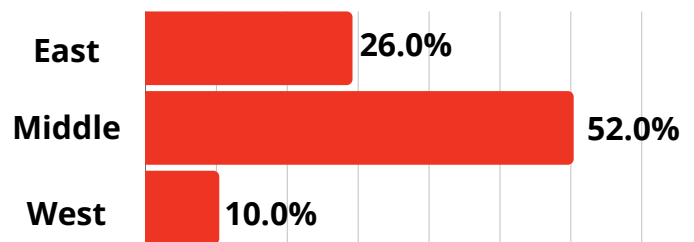
Tianeptine in Tennessee

Number of TN Emergency Department Visits
Involving Tianeptine by Year [2021-2023]



Source: TN Syndromic Surveillance (ESSENCE)

Percent of TN Emergency Department Visits
Involving Tianeptine by Patient Region*
[2021-2023]



Source: TN Syndromic Surveillance (ESSENCE)

*Patient Region is based on residence, not location of visit

*Patient Region unknown for 12% of ED visits

Tianeptine Federal and State Regulations

While tianeptine is not currently controlled under the federal Controlled Substances Act, several states, including Tennessee, have passed policies to regulate tianeptine. In Tennessee, tianeptine is classified as a schedule II substance under [HB2043/SB1997](#), effective July 1, 2022. Tianeptine, a schedule II substance, has a high potential for abuse that could potentially lead to severe physical or psychological dependence. In Tennessee, knowingly possessing or casually exchanging tianeptine will result in a misdemeanor.

**Contact the TN REDLINE for Substance
Use Treatment Resources and Referrals**



**Drug Enforcement Administration
Tianeptine Information**

