SMC - Narcotics

1. General

1.1 The issue at hand

The Narcotics Act regulates the handling of controlled substances. The aim is to prevent their misuse and to protect public health. Anyone importing, exporting or transiting with controlled substances requires an authorisation from Swissmedic.

1.2 Basis and information

- Narcotics Act (NarcA; SR *812.121*)

- Narcotics Control Ordinance (SR *812.121.1*)

- Narcotics Lists Ordinance (NarcLO-FDHA; SR *812.121.11*)

1.3 Reference in Tares

Tariff items that are relevant under narcotics law contain the note «Authorisation obligation: SMC-NARC».

1.4 Terminology

Controlled substances	Narcotics, psychotropic substances, raw materials and products with suspected narcotic-like effects, precursors and auxiliary chemicals
Narcotics	Substances and preparations that cause dependence containing an effective concentration of morphine, cocaine or cannabis, as well as substances and preparations produced on their basis or having a similar effect
	Narcotics include in particular:
	a. raw materials;
	b. active ingredients;
	c. other substances with similar effects;
	d. preparations, including those packaged for retail sale or marketed as medicinal products, that contain substances listed in a. to c;
	e. distillation residues.
Psychotropic substances	Substances and preparations that cause dependence that contain amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines or hallucinogens such as lysergide or mescaline or that have a similar effect
Precursors	Substances that do not cause dependence, but which may be transformed into narcotics or psychotropic substances
Auxiliary chemicals	Substances that assist in the production of narcotics and psychotropic substances

2. Information in the customs/goods declaration

Anyone importing or exporting narcotics or psychotropic substances must provide an indication in the goods declaration regarding the restriction obligation and enter the Swissmedic authorisation. If the goods are medicinal products, the medicinal product establishment licence must also be indicated.

Identification Regulation	Passar: - Regulation 1 (yes) - Regulation code 501 «SMC - Narcotics» - Additionally in the case of medicinal products: regulation code 510 «SMC - M Establishment licence»
	e-dec: - Authorisation obligation «yes» - Authorising authority «SMC-NARC»
Additional information	- Authorisation number - Authorisation holder[1] - Authorisation item number[1] - Quantity to be depreciated number[1] - Quantity to be depreciated unit[1] - Goods specification - preparation or substance[2]

Goods that would generally require a licence, but that can nevertheless be brought into the country without a licence due to an exemption from the requirement, must be declared accordingly:

Identification Regulation	Passar: - Regulation 1 (yes) - Regulation code 501 «SMC - Narcotics»
Licence exemptions	- Humanitarian emergency aid - Annual tolerance limit - Homoeopathic preparations, with controlled substances, dilution > D8/C4 - Precursor/auxiliary chemicals in pharmaceutical preparations/mixtures, not easily recoverable - Controlled substances for analytical purposes in solutions with a concentration of up to 1mg per 1ml imported/exported - Cannabis extract and tincture with a total THC content of less than 1.0% - Cuttings for cannabis plants (hemp) with a total THC content of less than 1.0% - Cannabis plants or parts thereof (hemp) with an average total THC content of less than 1.0%

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[1] Only for declarations in the Passar system
[2] Declaration in the Passar system: additional Information / Declaration in e-dec: Description of Goods