



## Alert from the NDEWS Web Monitoring Team: Online mentions of *N*-ethylpentedrone

**What was found?** Analysis of online discussions indicates that interest in and use of *N*-ethylpentedrone has been on a consistent upward trend since February.

**What is *N*-ethylpentedrone?** *N*-ethylpentedrone, also known as NEP, is a synthetic psychoactive chemical in the substituted cathinone class. *N*-ethylpentedrone is the *N*-ethyl analog of pentedrone.

**How is it being discussed?** Online discussions describe *N*-ethylpentedrone as a euphoric stimulant with a short duration of action, typically lasting only a few hours. Reddit users report that snorting is the preferred route of administration due to higher bioavailability compared to oral use or vaping. Some undesirable effects mentioned include multi-day periods of nasal irritation, breathing difficulties, multi-day periods of wakefulness, and extreme hyperfocus, especially when redosing. Some discussants report insomnia and depressive symptoms upon cessation of use. Some conversation focuses on mixing *N*-ethylpentedrone with depressants like benzodiazepines to ease comedowns and reduce compulsive redosing. Since the last web monitoring report there has been dramatically increased discussion concerning the potential “addictive qualities” of *N*-ethylpentedrone

**Drug Terms Searched:** *N*-ethylpentedrone, NEP,  $\alpha$ -EAPP,  $\alpha$ -ethylamino-valerophenone, *N*-ethylnorpentedrone