Roche Statement

Statement on use of midazolam for death penalty

January 16, 2015

Roche is aware of the use of the benzodiazepine midazolam as part of a drug combination for executions under the death penalty in the U.S.

Roche did not supply midazolam for death penalty use and would not knowingly provide any of our medicines for this purpose. We support a worldwide ban on the death penalty.

Roche discovered midazolam in the 1970s as a treatment for acute seizures, moderate to severe insomnia, and for inducing sedation and amnesia before medical procedures. In 2004, Roche discontinued the manufacture and distribution of midazolam in the U.S. for business reasons during a re-evaluation of our product portfolio of medicines that are now available from generic manufacturers.

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