

BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

Expert Advisory Group HCM: Herbal and Complementary Medicines (HCM)

SUMMARY MINUTES

A meeting of Expert Advisory Group (EAG): was held virtually on Friday 19th June 2020.

Present: Professor M Simmonds (*Chair*), Dr C Leon, Mr C Etheridge, Professor A Slater (*Chair of Panel DNA*), Mr C Welham, Dr K Zhao, Mr B Moore, Dr E Reich, Mr J Sumal and Dr M Pires.

In attendance: Ms H Ashraf, Mr S Young

Apologies: Dr R Middleton (*Vice Chair*), Dr L Anderson, Dr A Booker, Dr M Rowan and Professor. E Williamson

I GENERAL MATTERS

650 Opening Remarks

Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting of the Expert Advisory Group (EAG), the first held virtually.

650.1 **Confidentiality and declaration of interests** Members were reminded that all papers and minutes were confidential and should not be disclosed. A guidance document had previously been provided.

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare interests throughout the meeting and to keep the Secretariat informed of any changes to their interests.

650.2 **MHRA Update** Dr Ian Hudson had retired from his position as Chief Executive Officer of the MHRA in September. Dr June Raine, the former Director of the Vigilance and Risk Management of Medicines Division, had been appointed as the interim CEO until a permanent replacement for Dr Hudson had been appointed.

650.3 **Expenses** Members were reminded to complete an expenses form and submit this in a timely manner.

II MINUTES

HCM(20)02

651 The minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2019 were confirmed.

III MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

HCM(20)03

652 A list of matters arising from the minutes of the November 2019 meeting were provided.

652.1 **Herbal Photographs**

There has been no progress made to date due to Covid-19 and re-prioritisation of the laboratory work programme.

652.2 **Cyperus Rotundus**

Due to covid-19 the sub-group had been unable to attend to progress with the investigation of samples. A virtual meeting has been organised by the BP secretariat for experts to have a look at samples and progress this forward.

Expert Advisory Group: Herbal and Complementary Medicines

IV REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

653 Updates on Actions

HCM(20)04

Due to Covid-19 many of the herbal monograph had been put on hold due to re-prioritisation of the laboratory and difficulty in obtaining samples. Therefore, an update on actions paper was presented to experts to summarise the current progress for each monograph currently on the work programme.

654 Adenophora Root

Members were happy with this progression and had no comments.

655 Spearmint (*Mentha Spicata*) Aerial Parts

Members were reminded the materials supplied for this monograph were badly crushed therefore insufficient and unable to obtain a good description. The Secretariat will further investigate the TLC method to progress the monograph.

656 Cyperus Rotundus

The draft monograph would be included in a future publication, subject to sub-group checking rhizome samples.

657 Tinospora Cordifolia Stem

The BP Secretariat have been able to safely collect the samples and send to Laboratory for testing. There were no further comments from members in regard to this monograph.

658 Calcium Sennosides

The updated draft monograph was presented to members which covered both *Tinospora cordifolia* and *Tinospora sinensis*. The draft monograph would be included in future publication, subject to resolution of any outstanding points.

659 Calcium Sennosides

HCM(19)09

Members were presented with an updated draft monograph and were happy for this to progress. The Secretariat will be contacted MAH for samples and progress in laboratory.

660 Revision monographs Squill

An updated draft monograph was presented to members. Further work will continue for a HPTLC method development.

661 Indian Sandalwood Oil

Members were presented the revised version of this monograph with the new BPCRS. This monograph was published in BP2021.

Expert Advisory Group: Herbal and Complementary Medicines

V WORK PROGRAMME

HCM(20)05

662 Members discussed the re-prioritisation of the work programme. It was agreed collectively to include a criterion to be able to distinguish which monograph were most valuable for the BP. A criterion was agreed and a number of monographs were added to the re-prioritisation list. The Secretariat will circulate a new list for members to comment.

VI EUROPEAN PHARMACOPOEIA

HCM(20)06

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Experts were given a verbal update on the summaries of decisions at the meetings of group 13A, 13B, HMM, HOM and TCM.

VIII ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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None

X NEXT MEETINGS

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TBC

Expert Advisory Group: Herbal and Complementary Medicines

List of Acronyms/Synonyms

Acronym/Synonym	Name
APhI	Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia of India
ATA	Ayurvedic Trade Association
BP	British Pharmacopoeia
BP Commission	British Pharmacopoeia Commission
ChP	Pharmacopoeia of the People's Republic of China
EAG	Expert Advisory Group
EPC	European Pharmacopoeia Commission
GC	Gas chromatography
HKCMMS	Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards
HPTLC	High Performance Thin Layer Chromatography
ITS	Internal Transcribed Spacer
IR	Infrared
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
JP	Japanese Pharmacopoeia
LGC	Laboratory of the Government Chemist, Teddington
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
MPNS	Medicinal Plant Names Services - Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
NIBSC	National Institute for Biological Standards and Control
NMR	Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
Ph Eur	European Pharmacopoeia
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
SST	System Suitability Test
THR	Traditional Herbal Register
TCM	Traditional Chinese Medicine
UK	United Kingdom
UV	Ultraviolet