

*International Conference, 19-21 September 2022*



## Collaboration, Innovation and Scientific Excellence: the European Pharmacopoeia 11th Edition

**Session 4: Pharmacopoeial harmonisation**

Moderator: Cathie Vielle, EDQM, Council of Europe

# THE EUROPEAN DIRECTORATE FOR THE QUALITY OF MEDICINES & HEALTHCARE (EDQM)

  
European Directorate  
for the Quality  
of Medicines  
& Healthcare | Direction européenne  
de la qualité  
du médicament  
& soins de santé

COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

# Overview of PDG

**Yujiro Kameyama, Ph.D.**

Division of Pharmacopoeia and Standards for Drugs  
Office of Review Management  
Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA)



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## Why do we need harmonisation?

### **If each country/region has own pharmaceutical regulation without harmonisation....**

- Pharmaceutical products approved in one country/region that are sold in other countries/regions must meet the quality standards recognised in those countries/regions
- Must conduct similar redundant tests in each country/region, adding no value to the patient or public health



### **Pharmacopoeial Harmonisation**

→ can align test methods and specifications to a common quality standard



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# The Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group

- ▶ Began as an **informal** group in 1989; participants include USP, EP, and JP (WHO joined as an observer in 2001)
- ▶ Focuses on selected official, broad-impact **General Chapters** and **excipient** monographs
- ▶ Eliminates/minimises need to perform multiple **tests and procedures** and to comply with multiple **acceptance criteria** for the same article
- ▶ Detailed official process, with specific **stages** and terminology
- ▶ One face-to-face meeting a year, with a video conference in the interim



Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP)  
MHLW/PMDA  
Governmental



European Pharmacopoeia (Ph. Eur.)  
EDQM  
Inter-Governmental



United States Pharmacopoeia (USP)  
USP  
Non-Governmental

## PDG Mission

To harmonise pharmacopoeial standards while maintaining a constant level of science with the shared goal of protecting public health.



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# How PDG works for harmonisation?

## Definition of Harmonisation:

A pharmacopoeial general chapter or other pharmacopoeial document is harmonised when a pharmaceutical substance or product tested by the harmonised procedure as published in EP, JP and USP yields the same results, and the same accept/reject decision is reached.

- Text does NOT have to be identical
- Each Pharmacopoeia can adapt the text to local style, and take into consideration of local reference standards and reagents

PDG Statement of Harmonisation Policy: <https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000244636.pdf>

## Harmonisation Process of PDG:

- ▶ Harmonisation occurs based on decisions of experts bodies of each pharmacopoeia.
- ▶ PDG works transparently in many ways principally including public notice and comment procedures of each pharmacopoeia.
- ▶ Each pharmacopoeia does not revise unilaterally after harmonisation. When necessary, revision should be conducted according to the PDG Working Procedures.

PDG Working Procedure: <https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000244637.pdf> <sup>4</sup>



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## Harmonisation by Attributes: How PDG move forward

For the first decade of PDG, **zero** monographs or General Chapters were harmonised!

Harmonisation by Attribute was introduced as an acknowledgement that certain attributes simply cannot be harmonised because of:

- (1) Differing **regulatory** or **legal** requirements
- (2) **Non-harmonised** methodology for procedures
- (3) Differences in **scientific** expert opinions

Acknowledgement that partial harmonisation is preferred to no harmonisation!



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## PDG Work Program: General Chapters

### General Methods Relevant to Q6A:

Q-01 Dissolution  
Q-02 Disintegration  
Q-03/04 Uniformity of Content/Mass  
Q-05a Tests for Specified Microorganism  
Q-05b Microbial Enumeration  
Q-05c Limits for Non-sterile Products  
Q-06 Bacterial Endotoxin  
Q-07 Color (Instrumental Method)  
Q-08 Extractable Volume  
Q-09 Particulate Contamination  
Q-10 Residue on Ignition  
Q-11 Sterility Test

### General Chapters:

G-01 Analytical Sieving  
G-02 Bulk Density and Tapped Density  
G-03 Conductivity  
G-04 Gas Pycnometric Density of Solids  
G-05 Powder Flow  
G-06 Tablet Friability  
G-07 Elemental Impurities\*2  
G-09 Optical Microscopy  
G-10 Powder Fineness  
G-11 Specific Surface Area  
G-13 Laser Diffraction Measurement of Particle Size

### General Chapters:

G-14 X-Ray Powder Diffraction  
G-15 Water-solid Interaction  
G-16 Thermal Analysis  
G-20 Chromatography\*1  
G-21 Dynamic Light Scattering\*2

### Methods for Biotechnology Products:

B-01 Amino Acid Determination  
B-02 Capillary Electrophoresis  
B-03 Isoelectric Focusing  
B-05 Peptide Mapping  
B-06 Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis

**29 of the 31 general chapters have now been harmonised**

\*1 : Signed-Off in 2021  
\*2 : Under discussion towards first harmonisation



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## PDG Work Program: Excipients

E-01 Alcohols	E-26 Methylcellulose	E-55 Gelatin
E-02 Dehydrated Alcohol	E-27 Methyl Paraben	E-56 Sucrose
E-03 Benzyl Alcohol	E-28 Petrolatum* <sup>1</sup>	E-58 Mannitol
E-04 Calcium Disodium Edetate	E-29 Petrolatum, White* <sup>1</sup>	E-59 Propylene Glycol* <sup>2</sup>
E-05 Calcium Phosphate Dibasic	E-30 Polyethylene Glycol* <sup>2</sup>	E-60 Sodium Laurylsulfate
E-06 Calcium Phosphate Dibasic Anhydrous	E-31 Polysorbate 80	E-61 Starch, Pregelatinized* <sup>2</sup>
E-07 Carmellose Calcium	E-32 Povidone	E-62 Sterile Water for Injection* <sup>2</sup>
E-08 Carmellose Sodium* <sup>2</sup>	E-36 Silicon Dioxide* <sup>2</sup>	E-64 Isomalt
E-09 Croscarmellose Sodium	E-37 Silicon Dioxide, Colloidal* <sup>2</sup>	E-65 Isostearyl Alcohol* <sup>2</sup>
E-10 Microcrystalline Cellulose	E-38 Sodium Chloride	E-66 Myristyl Myristate* <sup>2</sup>
E-11 Cellulose, Powdered	E-39 Sodium Starch Glycolate	E-68 Polysorbate 65* <sup>2</sup>
E-13 Cellulose Acetate Phthalate	E-40 Starch, Corn	E-69 Calcium Silicate* <sup>2</sup>
E-14 Citric Acid, Anhydrous	E-41 Starch, Potato	E-70 Polysorbate 20* <sup>2</sup>
E-15 Citric Acid, Monohydrate	E-42 Starch, Rice	
E-16 Crospovidone	E-43 Starch, Wheat	
E-17 Ethylcellulose	E-44 Stearic Acid	
E-18 Hydroxyethylcellulose	E-45 Sucrose	
E-19 Hydroxypropylcellulose	E-46 Talc	
E-20 Hydroxypropylcellulose, Low Substituted	E-48 Ethyl Paraben	
E-21 Hypromellose	E-49 Propyl Paraben	
E-22 Hypromellose Phthalate	E-50 Butyl Paraben	
E-23 Lactose, Anhydrous	E-51 Glycerin* <sup>2</sup>	
E-24 Lactose, Monohydrate	E-52 Carmellose	
E-25 Magnesium Stearate	E-54 Copovidone	

\*1 : Signed-Off in 2021

\*2 : Under discussion towards first harmonisation

**48 of the 61 excipient monographs have now been harmonised**



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## An Example of PDG Success Story: Chromatography

- ▶ The harmonised general chapter **Chromatography** was signed-off by the Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) on September 28, 2021.
- ▶ During a joint PDG-industry meeting in 2009, the PDG was encouraged to add harmonisation of the three regional chapters on chromatography to the PDG work program. Although the chapters in question differed in content and format, it was considered feasible to develop a chapter describing **core requirements** applicable for TLC, HPLC and GC.
- ▶ These harmonised requirements promote the development of individual monographs with a consistent approach and enhance understanding of basic requirements by users in all three regions.

PDG Press Release G-20 Chromatography: <https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000244636.pdf>



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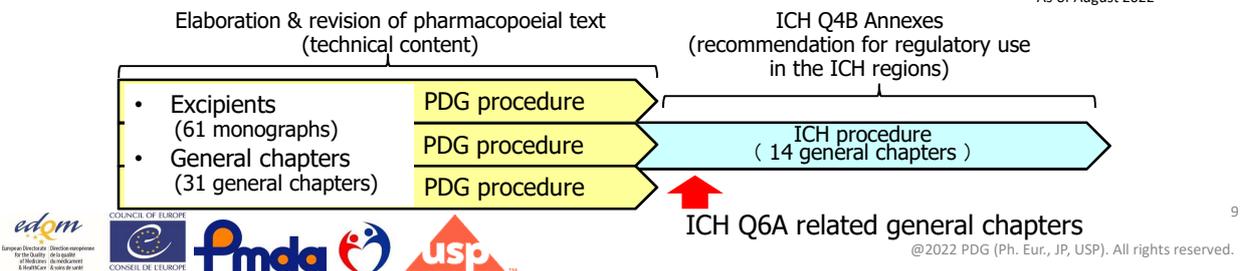
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# Interaction of PDG with ICH

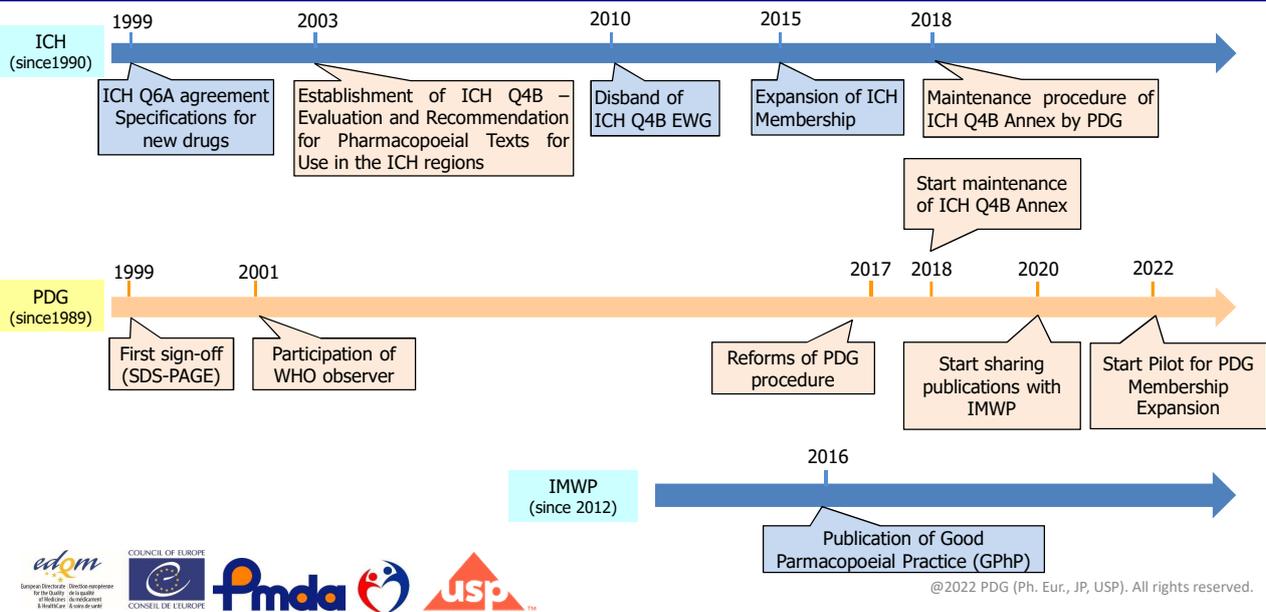
**ICH Q4B** evaluates and recommends pharmacopoeial texts for use in the ICH regions. Once in agreement as interchangeable, the result was publicised as a guideline.

PDG (since 1989)		ICH Q4B (2003 – 2010)
Ph.Eur. (EDQM), JP (MHLW/PMDA), USP (USP)	Participant	Regulatory: EU, MHLW/PMDA, FDA Industry: EFPIA, JPMA, PhRMA
Harmonisation of Science (Analytical Method, Acceptance Criteria)	Activity	Regulatory Harmonisation Regulatory Guideline
31 general chapters, 61 monographs*	Target	14 general chapters*
Harmonised pharmacopoeial texts	Outcome	Guideline = Recommendation for regulatory use in the ICH regions

\* As of August 2022



# PDG Collaborative Activities with ICH and IMWP



# Future of PDG: three strategic discussions

- ▶ The PDG is currently investigating and engaging in three strategic discussions designed to enhance the global reach and impact of international harmonisation of quality standards:
  - Engagement with Regulators: The PDG is investigating ways to improve interaction with regulators by a better anticipation of items critical for regulators and better reactivity in case of identifying potential issues.
  - Engaging Industry: The PDG is considering the development of a concept paper to improve early engagement of industry stakeholders and to reach further stakeholders than usually involved. This concept paper would also consider the Interaction with Regulators. It has been agreed to test this new approach using *Polysorbate 20*.
  - Engagement of other Pharmacopoeias: The PDG is working on ways to further improve interactions with other pharmacopoeias (e.g. Sharing PDG publications with IMWP, Pilot for PDG membership expansion)



# Publication of Harmonisation Status

- EP : <https://www.edqm.eu/en/international-harmonisation-614.html>
- JP : <https://www.pmda.go.jp/rs-std-jp/standards-development/jp/0005.html>
- USP : <https://www.usp.org/harmonized-standards/pdg>

The screenshot shows the USP website's 'International Harmonization of Pharmacopoeia' page. The page features a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'Reviews', 'Post-marketing Safety Measures', 'Regulatory Development', and 'Internal Affairs'. The main content area includes a table of contents with links to various sections such as '1. PDG Purpose', '2. PDG Process', '3. Statement of Harmonization Policy', '4. PDG Working Procedure', '5. PDG Glossary', '6. Interaction with ICH-Q4B', '7. FAQs', and '8. Contacts'. The main article, titled 'International Harmonization of Pharmacopoeia', discusses the need for global quality standards for medicines and the role of the PDG in this process. It mentions that the PDG was formed in 1989 and includes representatives from the European Pharmacopoeia, the U.S. Pharmacopoeia, and the Japanese Pharmacopoeia. The article also highlights the PDG's efforts to improve interaction with regulators and engage industry stakeholders.





# PDG projects involving other pharmacopoeias

20 September 2022

Dr Dirk Leutner, EDQM, on behalf of PDG



## Engagement of other pharmacopoeias

- **Setting together strong science-based standards**
- PDG developed and rolled out initiatives for **cooperation on specific texts with more pharmacopoeias** taking into account different situations of other pharmacopoeias

### 3 major projects:

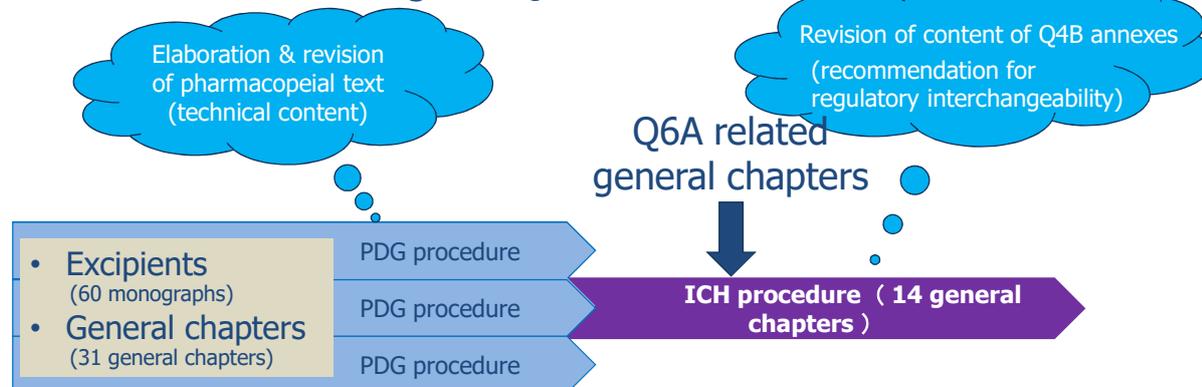
1. Maintenance of **ICH Q4B Annexes**
2. **exchange of texts** with world pharmacopoeias
3. **PDG expansion**

# Maintenance of ICH Q4B Annexes

## Clarification of scope of Q4B and its annexes

- **Declarations of Interchangeability by ICH regulatory members**
- **Relevant for pharmacopoeias from ICH regulatory members**

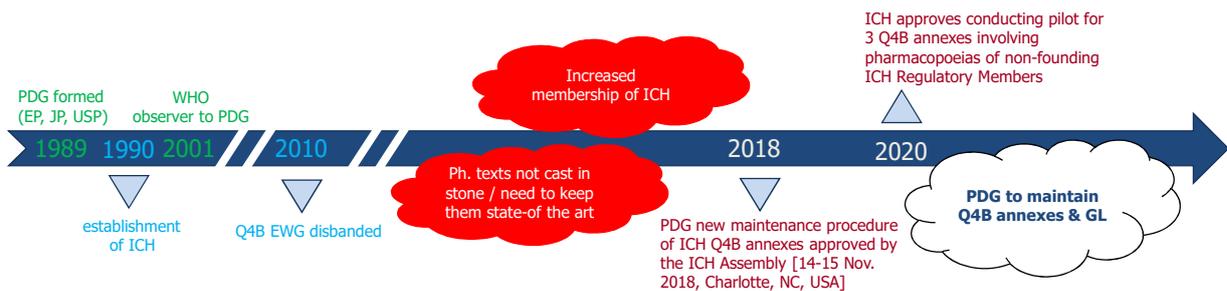
Concerning ICH Q4B annexes



## Why a new maintenance procedure? Some history

Founding Regulatory Members: EC, Europe; FDA, United States; MHLW/PMDA, Japan;  
Standing Regulatory Members: Health Canada, Canada\*; Swissmedic, Switzerland\*\*  
\* No active Ph. – \*\* member of the Ph. Eur.

Regulatory Members: ANVISA, Brazil; HSA, Singapore\*; MFDS, Republic of Korea; NMPA, China; TITCK, Türkiye\*\*; TFDA, Chinese Taipei; MHRA, UK\*\*, SFDA, Saudi Arabia\*, COFEPRIS, Mexico  
\* No active Ph. – \*\* member of the Ph. Eur.



## Involved other Pharmacopoeias of ICH regulatory members

- **Pilot phase:**
- **FB, Brazil**
- **ChP, People's Republic of China**
- **KP, Republic of Korea**
- **TWP, Chinese Taipei**

### **In future:**

- **FEUM, Mexico**

## Implementation of Q4B Annexes in new ICH Jurisdictions

- Approval by ICH Assembly to conduct a **pilot phase** → proof-of-concept on **3 annexes**
- **Pharmacopoeia of non-founding ICH Regulatory Member**
  - **evaluated own text** vs. PDG-harmonised text,
  - inform PDG about own understanding of harmonisation status
  - provided PDG with **English copy** of its Ph. Text, harmonisation status (incl. potential residual discrepancies)
- **Technical Review by PDG**. internal PDG evaluation and exchanges with involved pharmacopoeias
- PDG will draft and submit **revised Q4B Annexes** to the ICH Assembly before consultation of regulators
- **Goal of wider regulatory interchangeability**

# Interaction of PDG with other world pharmacopoeias

## IMWP History and setup



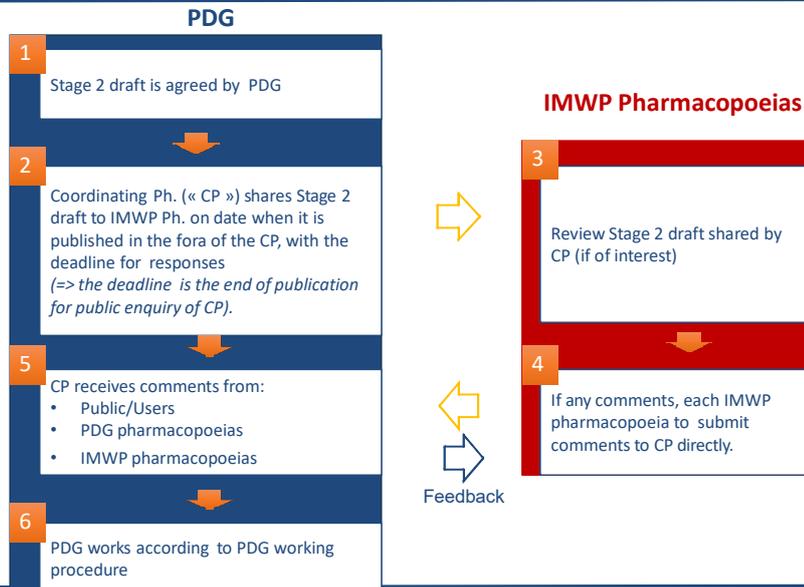
- **Started in 2012**, meetings organised by WHO together with host
- **for all interested world pharmacopoeias**
- **Yearly face-to-face meetings** to exchange on on-going topics (since 12<sup>th</sup> meeting in 2021 as videoconference); usually **15-30 representatives**
- Elaboration of **Good Pharmacopoeial Practices (GPhP)**
- **“pharmacopoeial alert system”** – COVID-19 response (work on Favipiravir IMWP monographs)

## How PDG interacts with IMWP



- PDG committed to **support pharmacopoeial harmonisation** of quality standards by **liaising** with other world pharmacopoeias (e.g. via IMWP) and by **exchanging PDG texts** with all IMWP ph. :
  - **at public consultation stage for comments** and
  - **after sign-off** for optional implementation following GPhP
- **PDG sees IMWP as discussion and information sharing forum** to
  - **get to know** peers
  - **build trust** among pharmacopoeias
  - **exchange information, knowledge and expertise**, e.g. to inform each other of recent challenges and share solutions found

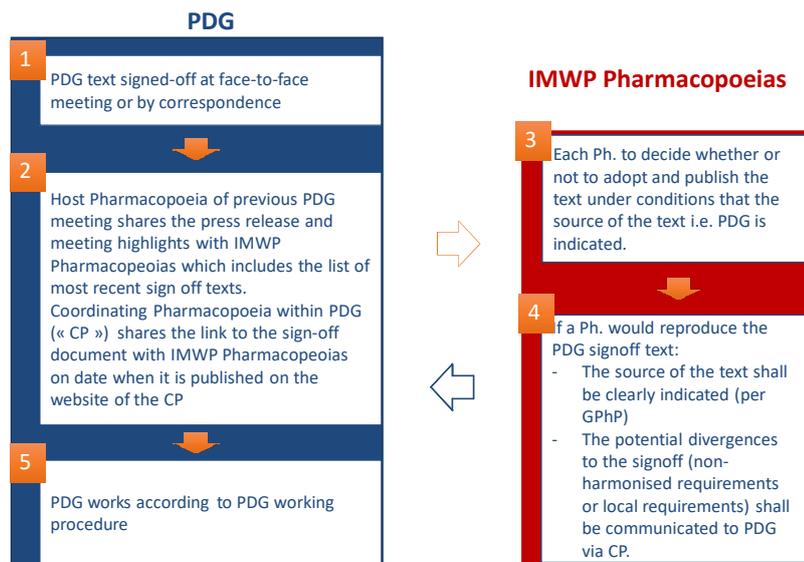
## Interaction PDG-IMWP: PDG Stage 2 (Official Inquiry)



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## Interaction PDG-IMWP: Stage 4 (sign-off by PDG)



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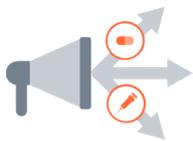


# PDG Pilot Expansion

Kevin Moore, Ph.D  
Sr. Manager, Ph. Collaboration



## Value of Effective Pharmacopeial Collaboration



### PROMOTE

**Access** to Quality medicines leveraging global expertise



### INCREASE

**Value** of public quality standards



### FACILITATE

**Global access** to state of the industry technology



### PRIORITIZE

**Balance** current paradigms and future trends



### ENABLE

**Global pharmaceutical** trade

## The Pharmacopeial Discussion Group (PDG)

- ▶ Began as an **informal** group in 1989; participants include USP, EP, and JP (WHO joined as an observer in 2001)
- ▶ Focuses on selected official, broad-impact **General Chapters** and **excipient** monographs
- ▶ Eliminates/minimizes need to perform multiple **tests and procedures** and to comply with multiple **acceptance criteria** for the same article
- ▶ Detailed process, with specific **stages** and terminology
- ▶ One face-to-face meeting a year, with a video conference in the interim



JP  
(MHLW/PMDA)



Ph. Eur.  
(EDQM)



USP

### PDG Mission

To harmonize pharmacopeial standards while maintaining a constant level of science with the shared goal of protecting public health.



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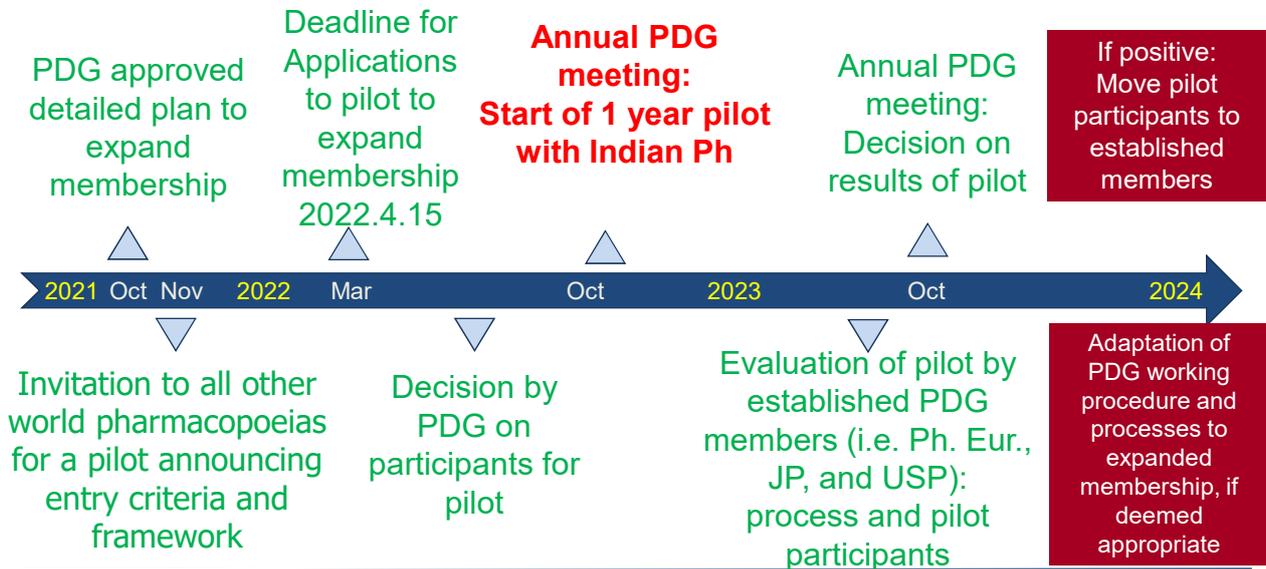
## Global Expansion of PDG



- ▶ Landmark decision by PDG to launch a pilot for the first expansion of membership in 32 years.
- ▶ Critical first step in PDG's commitment to expand recognition of harmonized pharmacopeial standards
- ▶ Global Pharmacopeias interested were invited to submit applications to be evaluated against objective entry criteria
- ▶ Pilot scheduled to begin Fall 2022 with the Indian Pharmacopeial Commission (IPC) invited to join.

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## Pilot phase for Expansion of PDG 2021 - 2023



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## Pilot and Evaluation Phase for PDG

- ▶ IPC to become a **regular participant** in all PDG activities **for a period of one year**, beginning at the 2022 Fall PDG Meeting
- ▶ Established PDG members **evaluate** pilot participants and resources/performance of PDG during the one year period following the 2022 Fall PDG Meeting
- ▶ Discussion by established members in two areas
  - **Pilot Member: Indian Pharmacopoeial Commission**
  - **Resources/Performance of the PDG:**
    - Discuss lessons learned and changes needed to the PDG process and model



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## Next Steps: Annual meeting Fall 2023

Established PDG members to decide by consensus on the outcome of the evaluation of the two areas

- ▶ If deemed appropriate, **adapt PDG structure** for pharmacopoeial harmonisation based on lessons learned
- ▶ Evaluate effectiveness of current “informal model” in the context of lessons learned from pilot
  - Potential next steps include:
    - **Change** in Model and/or criteria
    - Pilot participant moved to **established** member
    - **Continue** pilot for another year
    - **Terminate** pilot and evaluate next steps.
- ▶ PDG commits to transparency in the decisions and outcomes of the pilot to all stakeholders, including other interested pharmacopeias who may be interested to participate in potential future collaborative areas with PDG.



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## USP Vision for Convergence – Alignment with PDG

- ▶ Driving global convergence of pharmaceutical quality standards through collaboration to increase patient access to quality medicines
- ▶ Changing landscape and implications
  - Continued globalization of the pharmaceutical industry – rising importance of new regions.
  - Rising tide of nationalism – Importance of driving collaboration
  - More opportunities for harmonization than ever – new ways to approach this problem



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# Questions



Empowering a healthy tomorrow

# Pharmacopoeial harmonization: perspectives from WHO

**Luther Gwaza PhD.**

Team Lead Norms and Standards for Pharmaceuticals

World Health Organization



# Global Health Priorities

## WHO Triple Billion Targets

### Healthier populations

One billion more people enjoying better health and well-being.

### Universal health coverage

One billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage.

### Health Emergencies

One billion more people better protected from health emergencies.

## UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



## Unification of pharmacopoeias

History on international cooperation to unify pharmacopoeial standards goes back to 1874 – need to standardize terminology and to specify dosages and composition of medicines



(Article 2 (u) ..to develop, establish and promote international standards with respect to food, **biological, pharmaceutical** and similar products;

The first World Health Assembly established :

- The Secretariat of *The International Pharmacopoeia*
- "Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias"



First World Health Assembly (WHA1), Palais des Nations, Geneva, 24 June - 24 July 1948. Left to right: Dr Brock Chisholm, first Director-General of WHO, Dr Andrija Stampar, M. Henri Laugier, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN.

## The International Pharmacopoeia



Enter

*The International Pharmacopoeia* (Ph. Int.) constitutes a collection of recommended procedures for analysis and specifications for the determination of pharmaceutical substances and dosage forms that is intended to serve as source material for reference or adaptation by any WHO Member State wishing to establish pharmaceutical requirements. The pharmacopoeia, or any part of it, shall have legal status, whenever a national or regional authority expressly introduces it into appropriate legislation. Further explanation or the role of *The International Pharmacopoeia* is provided in the paragraphs entitled "Scope and function" at the end of the Preface of this edition.

The history of *The International Pharmacopoeia* dates back to 1874 when the need to standardize terminology and to specify dosages and composition of medicines led to this international pharmacopoeial compendium. The first World Health Assembly in 1948 established with the resolution WHA1.27 the Secretariat of *The International Pharmacopoeia* and the "Expert Committee on the Unification of Pharmacopoeias of the World Health Organization", which later became the "Expert Committee on Specifications for Pharmaceutical Preparations".

Compared to other pharmacopoeias, priority is given to medicines included in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines and to medicines which are important for WHO health programmes and for which other pharmacopoeias do not offer any test specifications. The quality control specifications published in *The International Pharmacopoeia* are developed independently via an international consultative procedure. The needs of developing countries are taken into account. The ultimate goal of *The International Pharmacopoeia* is to provide quality control specifications so as to help enabling access to quality medicines worldwide.

Copyright and Cataloguing-in-Publication Data



**Acceptable specifications should be relevant/applicable to all WHO Member States, current and accessible to all users (e.g., quality control laboratories, NRAs, generic manufacturers).**

Focus on:

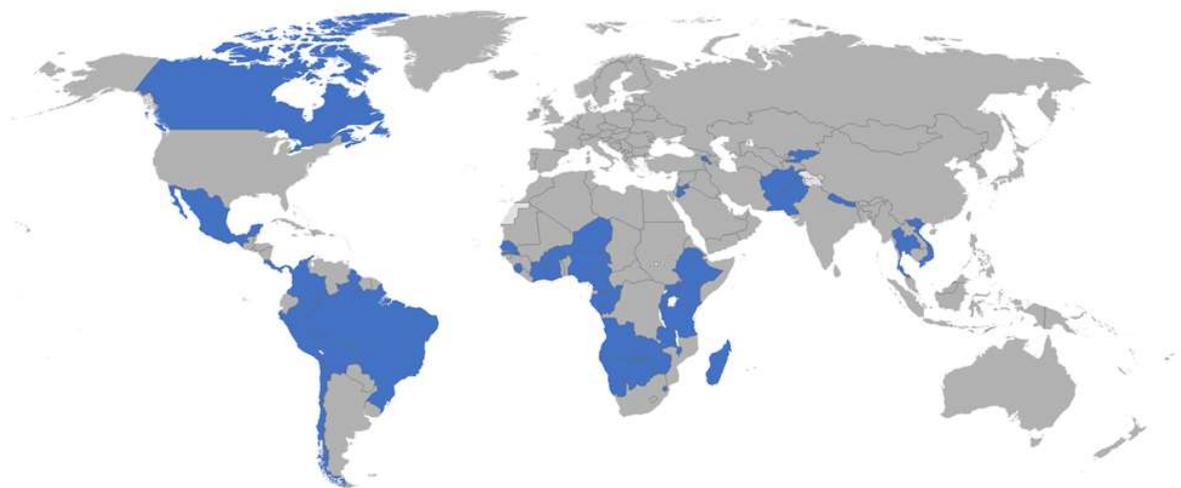
- WHO Model List Of Essential Medicines (EML) and EMLc;
- on the invitations to manufacturers to submit an expression of interest (EOI) to the WHO Prequalification Unit;
- United Nations (UN)/WHO documents recommending the use of medicines for the treatment of specific diseases and/or for use by treatment programmes.

[The International Pharmacopoeia online](#)

“The Ph.Int. (...) is intended to serve as source material for reference or adaptation by any WHO Member State wishing to establish pharmaceutical requirements. The pharmacopoeia, or any part of it, shall have legal status, whenever a national or regional authority expressly introduces it into appropriate legislation.”



### Member States referring to The International Pharmacopoeia



■ Not applicable

## International collaboration and harmonization



- **Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG)**
  - works to harmonize excipient monographs and general chapters.
  - Ten harmonized texts included in Ph. Int
- **International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias (IMWP)**
  - Good Pharmacopoeial Practices (GPhP)
  - Pharmacopoeial Alert System
  - IMWP monographs (Favipiravir and on Favipiravir tablets)
- **International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH)**
  - ICH guidelines, e.g., related to the control of impurities, the development and validation of analytical methods
- **Bilateral Agreements and collaboration**
  - E.g., EDQM serves as custodian for the International Chemical Reference Substances (ICRS) and International Standards for Antibiotics (ISA)



Expand Content | Collapse Content

[Dissolution testing of tablets and capsules](#)

[Microbiological quality of non-sterile products: recommended acceptance criteria for pharmaceutical preparations](#)

[Monographs to be evaluated against the text "Related substances in dosage form monographs"](#)

[Note for guidance on organic impurities in active pharmaceutical ingredients and finished pharmaceutical products](#)

[Polymorphism](#)

▼ [Test methods used during development or manufacture](#)

[Bulk density and tapped density of powders](#)

[Measurement of consistency by penetrometry](#)

Supplementary information ▶ [Notes for guidance](#)

[Open section in PDF format](#)

### Dissolution testing of tablets and capsules

2016-01

#### 1. Introduction

Chapter [5.5 Dissolution test for solid oral dosage forms](#) is based on the internationally-harmonized dissolution test developed by the Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG), which comprises representatives from the European Pharmacopoeia, the Japanese Pharmacopoeia and the United States Pharmacopoeia. The general method presents the Paddle and Basket methods for dissolution testing. Two other general methods contained in the PDG text, namely the Reciprocating-cylinder method and the Flow-through cell, have not so far been adopted for *The International Pharmacopoeia*.

It is not the intention of *The International Pharmacopoeia* to apply retrospectively the test conditions and acceptance criteria of the revised dissolution test or to change specifications for existing products. Table 1 lists monographs with dissolution tests, which were developed applying previous versions of chapter 5.5 and which are thus not subject to the internationally-harmonized provision. In the elaboration of new monographs and revision of individual

*“Although there were, during the Commission’s five sessions and two years of existence, conflicts of opinion on some issues, it was always ultimately found possible to **harmonize discordant views** and to formulate solutions acceptable to all members.”*

*“The reason for this was ... also in the fact that they [Commissioners] were drawn together by the conviction that **health was pre-eminently a subject in which the necessity and the advantages of international cooperation were manifest** and could be demonstrated to the full.”*

*“The knowledge and the tools required for the improvement of health in ALL countries are available. **YET only a very small proportion** of men, women and children of the world at present enjoy the benefits to health that **science can bring**”*



Foreword in the Report to the First World Health Assembly in 1948  
by A.STAMPAR, M.D, Chairman of the Interim Commission

## Thank you

For more information, please contact:

Name: Luther Gwaza PhD

Title: Team Lead, Norms and Standards for Pharmaceuticals

Email: gwazal@who.int





## INDIAN PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India)  
Sector 23, Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad 201002 (U.P.), India  
E-mail: lab.ipc@gov.in; Website: www.ipc.gov.in



## Motivation and Expectations for Harmonization from the Indian Pharmacopoeia

20 September 2022  
Strasbourg, France

Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi  
Secretary-cum-Scientific Director  
Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission

Indian Pharmacopoeia Reference Standards & Impurity Standards

Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)

National Formulary of India (NFI)

National Coordination Centre-Pharmacovigilance Programme of India



## Outline

- Background: Harmonisation
- Motivation for Pharmacopoeial Harmonisation
- Advantage of Pharmacopoeial Harmonisation
- Harmonisation Efforts by Indian Pharmacopoeia
- IPC participation in PDG
- IPC Monograph/ General Chapter (GC) Harmonisation process
- PDG Excipients and General Chapters
- Expectations from Harmonisation

Indian Pharmacopoeia Reference Standards & Impurity Standards

Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)

National Formulary of India (NFI)

National Coordination Centre-Pharmacovigilance Programme of India





## INTRODUCTION

The Govt. of India has created a dedicated and autonomous institution - **Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)** to be custodian of **Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)**, the official book of standards for drugs included therein, in terms of the **Second Schedule to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940**. It came into existence on **1<sup>st</sup> January 2009** as an **Autonomous Institute**

**Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)** specifies the Standards of Quality (identify, purity and strength) of the drugs imported, manufactured for sale, stocked or exhibited for sale or distributed in India.



Pharmacopoeia Reference Standards & Impurity Standards

Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)

National Formulary of India (NFI)

National Coordination Centre- Pharmacovigilance Programme of India



## JOURNEY OF IP EDITIONS



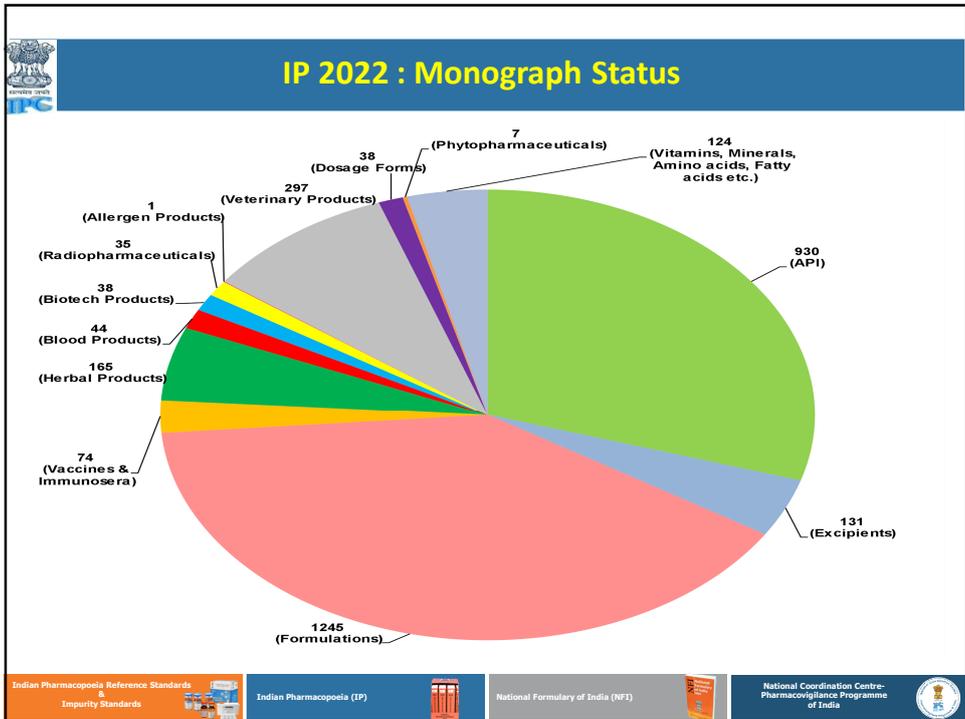
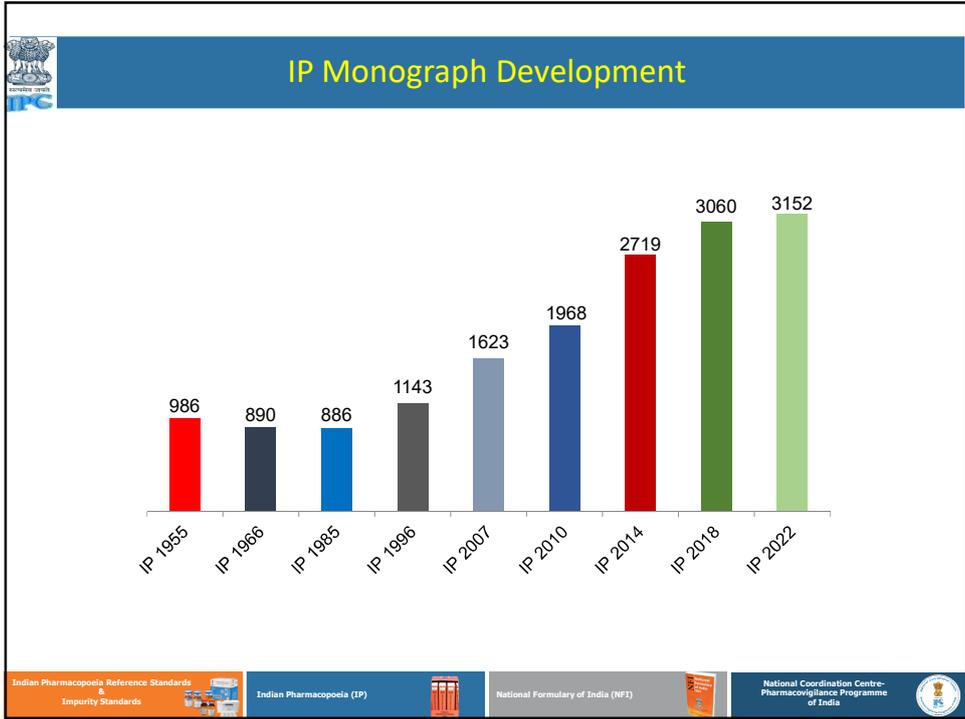
Pharmacopoeia Reference Standards & Impurity Standards

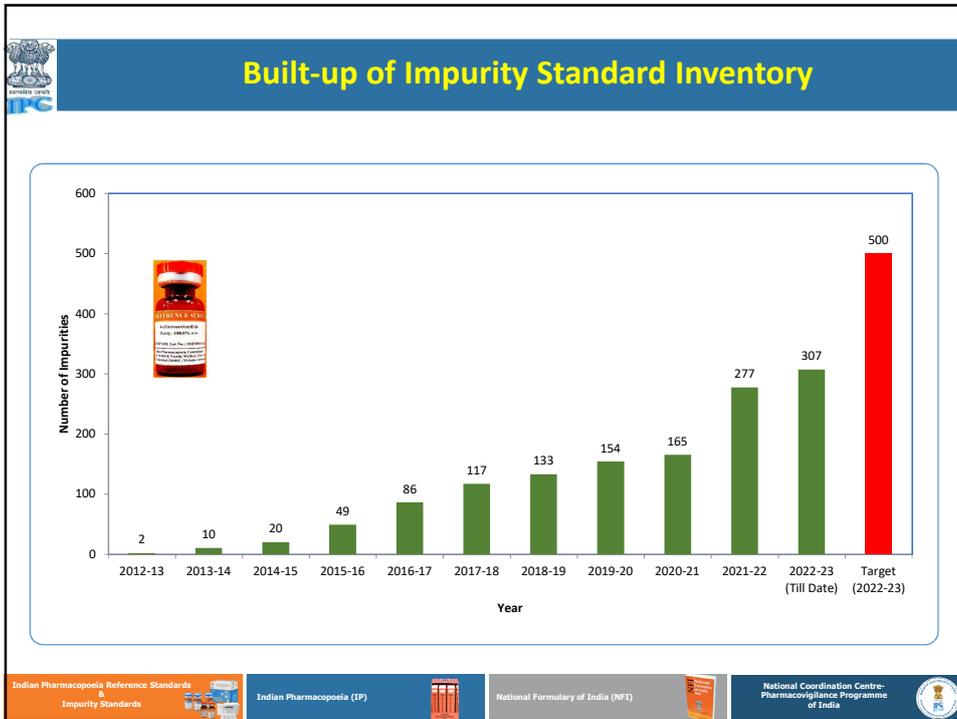
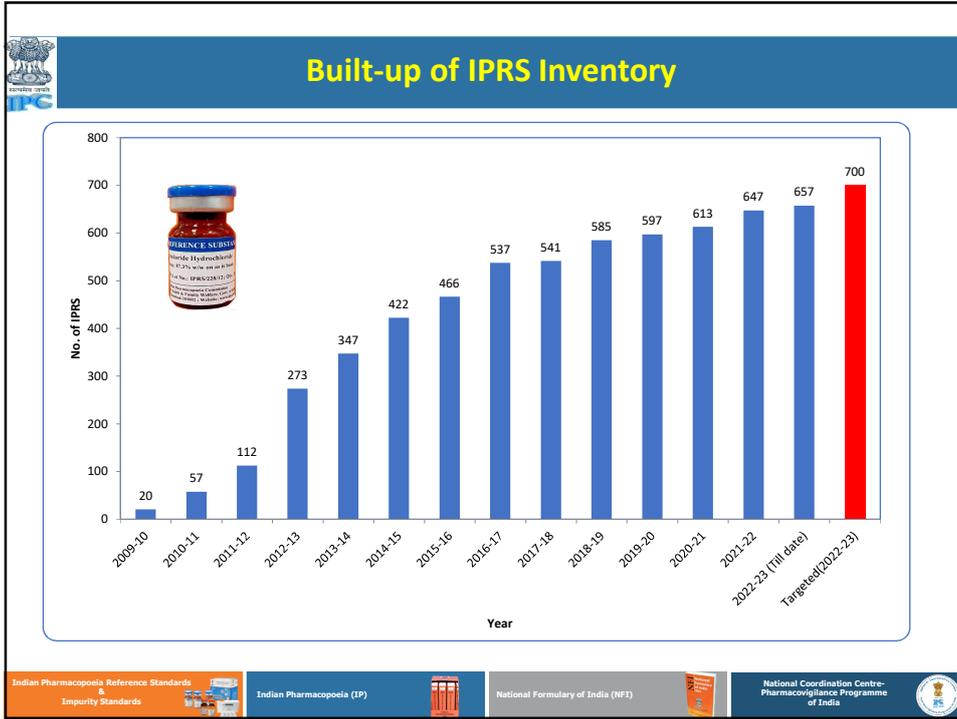
Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)

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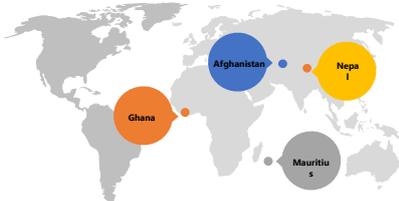
 **NEW INITIATIVES AT IPC WITH HIGH IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH**

- 1 DIGITAL IP – SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BY END OF FY'23
- 2 INCREASING INVENTORY AND STAKEHOLDER AWARENESS ON IMPURITY STANDARDS USE AND IMPORTANCE
- 3 BRINGING DISSOLUTION TESTING IN PROLONGED RELEASE FORMULATION MONOGRAPHS
- 4 IMPURITY LIMITS HARMONIZED WITH ICH RECOMMENDATION
- 5 JOINING PDG PILOT – GLOBAL INITIATIVE TOWARDS HARMONIZATION OF PHARMACOPOEIA
- 6 NEW MoU BEING SIGNED WITH Ministry of AYUSH and NIPER GUAHATI






 **RECOGNITION OF IP IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES**



IP has been accepted as a book of standards in a total of four countries






## Background: Harmonisation

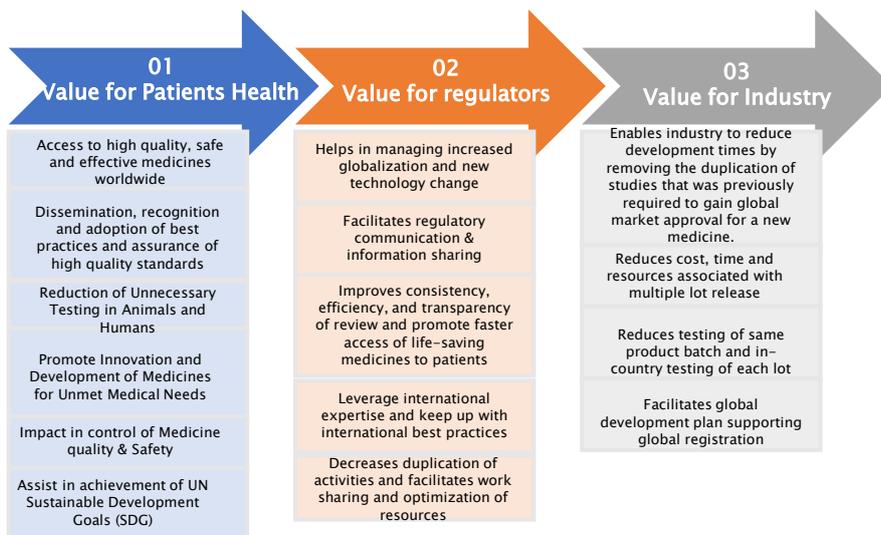
- **Objective:** to have aligned test methods and specifications to a common standard



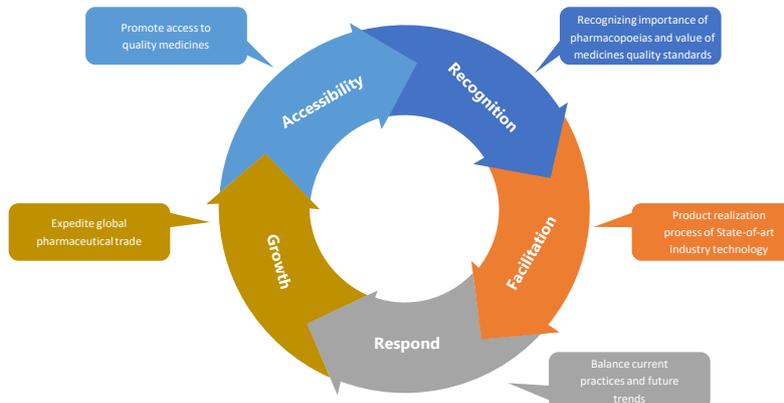
- **Participating countries**

- Harmonisation is embedded in development and history of pharmacopoeias and Pharmacopoeias are themselves embedded within current regulatory and legal framework of the country or region in which they are applicable.
- Pharmacopoeial harmonization provides support to global regulatory agencies.
- It address global manufacturing and supply chain which ultimately benefits global patients health.

## Motivation for Pharmacopoeial harmonisation



## Advantage of Pharmacopoeial harmonisation



## Harmonisation Efforts by Indian Pharmacopoeia

- **Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) accepted IPC to pilot for global expansion of membership**
- **Bilateral Memorandums of Understanding with Pharmacopoeias United States Pharmacopoeia (USP) and British Pharmacopoeia (BP) on exchange of knowledge and pharmacopoeial standards.**
- **Participation in International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias–**
  - New-Delhi, India, April 2013, co-organised by IP and WHO
  - Suzhou City, China, Sept. 2015, co-organised by ChPh and WHO
  - Tokyo, Japan, September 2016, co-organised by JP and WHO
  - Brasilia, Brazil, July 2017, co-organised by ANVISA and WHO
  - Geneva, Switzerland, March 2019 organized by WHO

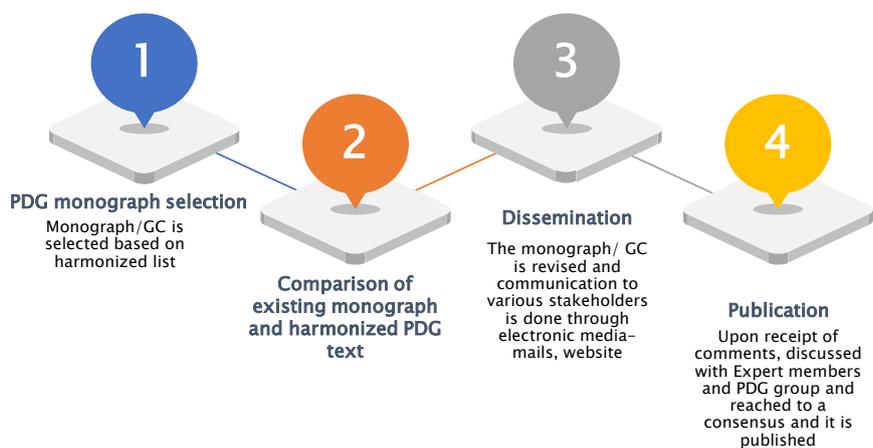
## Harmonisation Efforts by Indian Pharmacopoeia (C)

- **Work for International Pharmacopoeia–**  
Participated regularly for the development of the monographs related to Anti-retroviral, Anti-tubercular and Radio pharmaceutical for the WHO/International Pharmacopoeia from time to time.
- **Observer status in European Directorate of Quality of Medicines (EDQM) and participates in the meetings–**
  - 154<sup>th</sup> session, Strasbourg, France, 15<sup>th</sup> –16<sup>th</sup> March, 2016
  - 160<sup>th</sup> session Strasbourg, France, 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018
  - 164<sup>th</sup> session Strasbourg, France, 18<sup>th</sup> –19<sup>th</sup> June, 2019
- **Conducted IPC–EDQM Symposium on Drug Standards and Regulatory Updates** Hotel Courtyard Marriot, Mumbai, India, 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

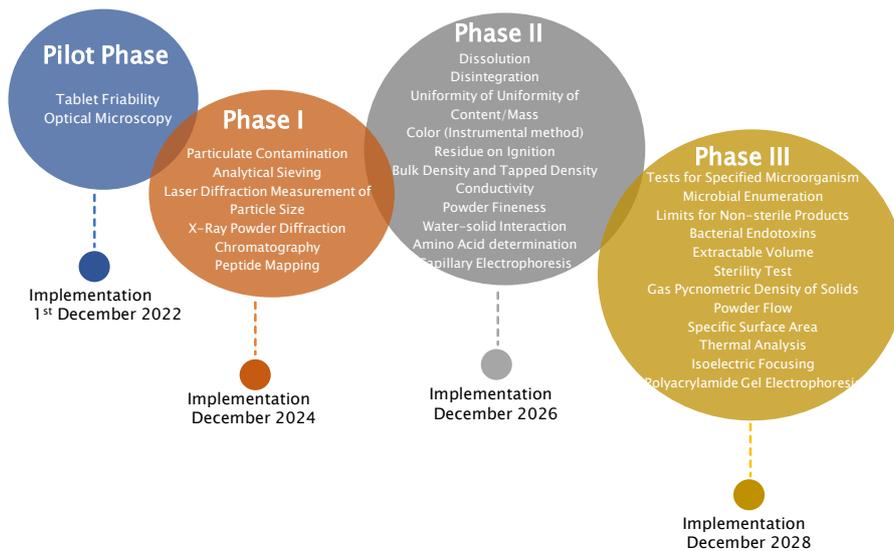
## IPC participation in PDG

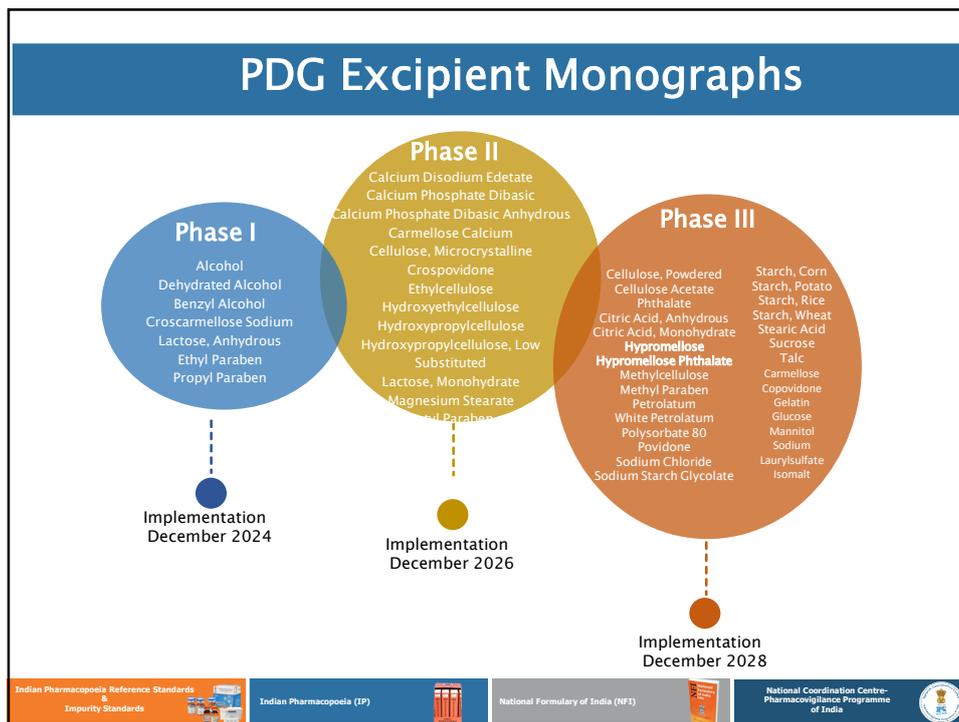
- **India participated in PDG pilot phase for global expansion (Dec 13, 2021)**  
↓
- **IPC gave intent to participate in pilot phase (Dec 31, 2021)**  
↓
- **IPC staff participated in informational follow-up videoconferencing (Feb 28, 2022)**  
↓
- **Submitted application for PDG pilot for global expansion of membership (April 6, 2022)**  
↓
- **Responded to additional clarifications on application (June 7, 2022)**

## IPC Monograph/ General Chapter (GC) Harmonisation process



## PDG General chapters





## Expectations from Harmonisation

- Harmonization with ICH and other worldwide authorities will position India as one of new key countries for pharmaceutical companies.
- Avoids **repetition in drug development** activities.
- **Decrease the drug development** delays and ensures availability of key medicines to patients.
- **Enhance the functioning of regulatory** systems and harmonization of pharmaceutical regulations
- High level of **engagement** among stakeholders
- Scope of accommodating local issues
- Discourage **unethical activities such as:**
  - Production and import of substandard medicine
  - Conduct of unethical trials
  - Corruption

Irrational prescribing and dispensing practices

Indian Pharmacopoeia Reference Standards & Impurity Standards | Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) | National Formulary of India (NFI) | National Coordination Centre-Pharmacovigilance Programme of India



# Thank You

*USE OF IP & IPRS IS SOCIAL AND LEGAL  
OBLIGATION FOR "IP" PRODUCTS*





# ChP's Perspective for standards harmonisation

2022 EDQM Conference to mark the launch of 11<sup>th</sup> Edition European Pharmacopoeia

Chinese Pharmacopoeia Commission

20th Sept. 2022

国家药典委员会  
Chinese Pharmacopoeia Commission

## » ChP and EDQM

- The 1st CHP-EDQM Joint Workshop (about the special topic on pharmaceutical excipients standards) was held at EDQM headquarters in October 2016
- The 2nd CHP-EDQM Joint Workshop (about the special topic on impurity control and detection technology) was held at Jinan in July 2019



Signature of the CHP-EDQM MOU

国家药典委员会  
CHINESE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

## >> The overview of ChP international cooperation

3

The Chinese Pharmacopoeia Commission has good cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Pharmacopoeia agencies of the EU, the US, the UK, Japan, India, Kazakhstan and other countries.

- Active participation in IMWP activities under the WHO framework
- Signing bilateral MOUs with counterpart agencies of the US, the UK, the EU, Japan and Kazakhstan to gradually promote international cooperation on drug standards
- Collaboration with the French Pharmacopoeia, the US Pharmacopoeia and the British Pharmacopoeia: joint development of standards for Chinese crude drug, excipients, packaging materials and biological products
- FHH (China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Vietnam, Australia, Hong Kong 6+1, forum for the harmonisation of herbal medicines) Sub-Committee I: Pharmacopoeia
- Recommendation of international experts: USP, EP
- Recommendation of Chinese crude drug standards to Pharmacopoeias of other countries

 国家药典委员会  
CHINESE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION



## Main content

- Harmonisation of *the Chinese Pharmacopoeia* with ICH Guidelines
- ChP's Perspective for standards harmonisation

 国家药典委员会  
Chinese Pharmacopoeia Commission

## China's accession to ICH

5

- In June 2017, the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) officially approved the former China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) as its 8th regulatory member.



国家食品药品监督管理总局成为国际人用药品注册技术协调会成员



2017年06月19日 发布

2017年5月31日至6月1日，国际人用药品注册技术协调会（ICH）2017年第一次会议在加拿大蒙特利尔召开。会议通过了中国国家食品药品监督管理总局的申请，总局成为国际人用药品注册技术协调会正式成员。

The International Council for Harmonization (ICH) met in Montreal, Canada from May 31 to June 1, 2017. The ICH Assembly approved the China Food and Drug Administration as a new Regulatory Member.

- On 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018, the National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) was elected member of ICH management committee.



中国国家药品监督管理局当选为国际人用药品注册技术协调会管理委员会成员



2018年06月07日 发布

当地时间6月7日下午1点30分，在日本神户举行的国际人用药品注册技术协调会（ICH）2018年第一次大会上，中国国家药品监督管理局当选为ICH管理委员会成员。

国家药典委员会  
CHINESE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

## ICH guidelines

6

- As a technical, non-governmental international organisation established by the drug regulatory agencies and industry associations of the US, the EU and Japan
- the basic purpose of ICH is to harmonise and establish international technical standards and regulations on the safety, efficacy and quality of drugs in the field of drug registration.



- Q category deals with quality assurance, 44 guidelines
- S category deals with preclinical studies, 16 guidelines
- E category deals with clinical studies, 30 guidelines
- M category deals with multidisciplinary topics, 12 guidelines

### ICH guidelines on quality

Q1 Stability	Q8 Pharmaceutical development
Q2 Analytical validation	Q9 Quality risk management
Q3 Impurities	Q10 Pharmaceutical quality system
Q4 Pharmacopoeias	Q11 Development and manufacture of drug substances
Q5 Quality of biotechnological products	Q12 Lifecycle management
Q6 Specifications	Q13 Continuous manufacturing of drug substances and drug products
Q7 Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)	Q14 Analytical procedure development

- In March 2018, according to the principle of "the organiser takes charge" made by the ICH Office of NMPA, ChP is responsible for the conversion and implementation of ICH Q4.

- Considering the high complexity and wide impact of implementing ICH Q4 in China, this guideline is defined as tier 3 guideline by the ICH Office, and there is no clear time frame and task requirements for implementation at present.

国家药典委员会  
CHINESE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

## >> Other ICH guidelines

7

> *The Chinese Pharmacopoeia* also involves harmonisation with ICH guidelines Q1, Q2, Q3, Q5, Q6, M7, M10, etc.

ICH guidelines	ChP guidelines
Q1 Stability	9001 Guideline for stability testing of drug substances and products
Q2 Analytical Validation	9101 Guideline for analytical validation
Q3 Impurities	0861 Residual solvent determination method, 0821 Heavy metal examination method 9102 Guideline for the analysis of pharmaceutical impurities
Q5 Quality of Biotechnological Products	Examination methods related to biological products
Q6 Specifications	Q4-related testing methods
M7 Mutagenic Impurities	9306 Guideline for the control of genotoxic impurities
M10 Bioanalytical Method Validation	9011 Guideline for human bioavailability and bioequivalence testing of pharmaceutical products

药典委员会

CHINESE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

## >> Harmonisation of *the Chinese Pharmacopoeia* (2020 edition) with ICH

8

- 1 Revised guideline for stability testing of drug substances and products — ICH Q1
- 2 Revised guideline for analytical validation — ICH Q2
- 3 Revised guideline for the analysis of pharmaceutical impurities — ICH Q3
- 4 Revised residual solvent determination method — ICH Q3C
- 5 New Flow-Through Cell and reciprocating cylinder apparatus — ICH Q4
- 6 New bulk density and tapped density determination method — ICH Q4
- 7 New guideline for the control of genotoxic impurities — ICH M7



- > Combining the current situation of drug manufacture and quality control in China
- > Considering the applicability of marketed products
- > Conformity with the scope and specifications of the pharmacopoeia
- > Mainstream pharmacopoeias around the world are revised according to ICH guidelines

**New: as consistent as possible**

**Revision: harmonised as far as possible**

员会

CHINESE PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

## ICH website published ChP's implementation status of ICH Q4

9

- From 2017 to 2020, ChP submitted the implementation status of 16 pharmacopoeial analytical methods of ICH Q4 in China, technical differences as well as comments and suggestions on revising ICH Q4 to ICH office of NMPA.

In 2020, for the first time, all 14 annexes of ICH Q4B on the ICH website incorporated the implementation status of the ChP.

The screenshot displays the 'Pharmacopoeial Harmonisation' section on the ICH website. It lists the implementation status of ICH Q4B in various regions. The 'NMPA, China' entry is highlighted with a red box, indicating its implementation status. The text for NMPA, China states: 'In the process of implementation, Reference: Chinese Pharmacopoeia (2015 edition) volume IV, general notes (the part of general chapters) and related general chapters, rules of developing and revision process for national pharmacopoeial standards (the part of general chapters)'. Other regions listed include ANVISA, Brazil; EC, Europe; FDA, United States; HSA, Singapore; Health Canada, Canada; MFDS, Republic of Korea; and MHLD/PMDA, Japan.



## Main content

- Harmonisation of the *Chinese Pharmacopoeia* with ICH Guidelines
- ChP's Perspective for standards harmonisation

## >> The assessment of the difference between ChP and ICH Q4

11

—**Similarity:** All the methods in Q4B annexes are included in *the Chinese Pharmacopoeia* (2020 edition) and are generally consistent in terms of technical requirements.

—**Difference:** There are differences in instrument parameters, determination methods and results determination. The differences in residue on ignition test, disintegration test, content uniformity test and dissolution test are relatively big.

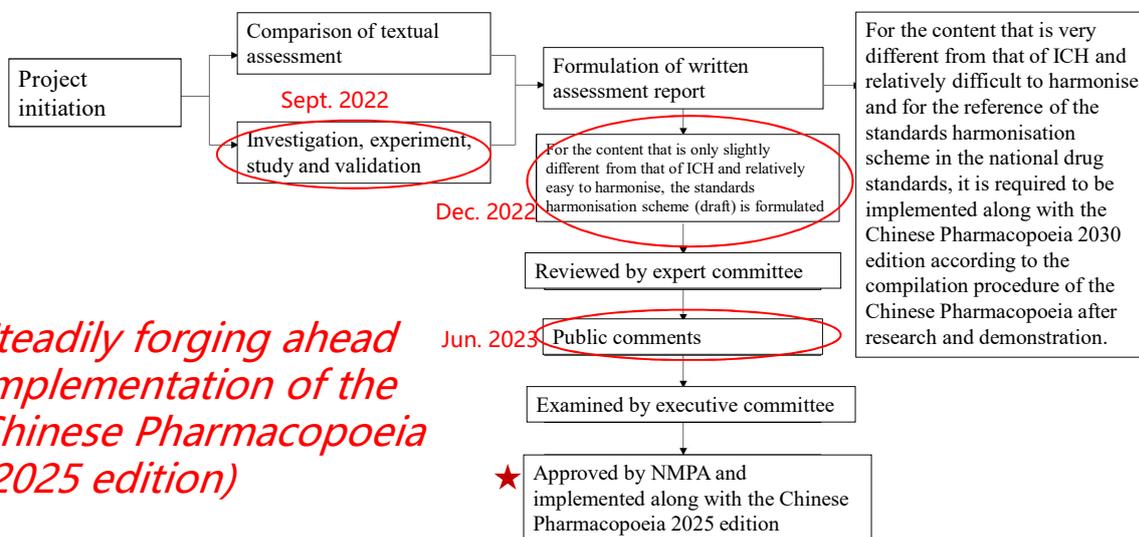
No.	Testing methods	Harmonisation assessment	Main difference
Q4B1	Residue on ignition test	Relatively big difference	The amount of sulphuric acid added, ignition temperature, conditions for ending test
Q4B2	Test for extractable volume of parenteral preparations	Generally consistent	Different sampling methods, different specific operations
Q4B3	Insoluble particulate matter test	Generally consistent	Different determination methods of water for particulate matter, different sampling methods, different methods of determining the results of 100ml volume
Q4B4A	Microbiological examination of non-sterile products: microbial enumeration test	Generally consistent	Differences in some validated strains, control media, operational details, etc.
Q4B4B	Microbiological examination of non-sterile products: tests for specified micro-organism	Generally consistent	Differences in some validated strains, control media, operational details, determination results, etc.
Q4B4C	Microbiological examination of non-sterile products: acceptance criteria for pharmaceutical preparations and substances for pharmaceutical use	Generally consistent	Significant differences in scope of application, requirements for Salmonella testing, microbiological limits for small dosage formulations such as patches, standards for traditional Chinese medicine (botanical drug), etc.
Q4B5	Disintegration test	Relatively big difference	Different apparatus and result determination methods

## >> The assessment of the difference between ChP and ICH Q4

12

No.	Testing methods	Harmonisation assessment	Main difference
Q4B6	Content uniformity test	Relatively big difference	Different apparatus and result determination methods
Q4B7	Dissolution and release test	Relatively big difference	Different examination methods and result determination methods
Q4B8	Sterility test	Generally consistent	Slight differences in strains, number of tests and washout volumes
Q4B9	Tablet friability test	Generally consistent	Slight differences in apparatus and points for attention
Q4B10	Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis	Generally consistent	ICH method is more flexible and detailed
Q4B11	Capillary electrophoresis	Generally consistent	The description in ChP is more explicit (isolation mode, apparatus)
Q4B12	Analytical sieving	Generally consistent	ICH has more detailed rules on different sieve sizes, how to choose the right sieve in accordance with different sample sizes, and sample weight
Q4B13	Bulk density and tapped density	Consistent	/
Q4B14	Bacterial endotoxins test	Generally consistent	Slight difference in method description

Are the methods with small differences equivalent/interchangeable? i.e. do these differences affect the ability to produce the same results of acceptance and rejection? —Extensive validation, statistical comparison



*Steadily forging ahead  
Implementation of the  
Chinese Pharmacopoeia  
(2025 edition)*

General chapters	Year of first inclusion in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia	Number of references to monograph standards in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia
Residue on ignition test	1953	791
Test for extractable volume of parenteral preparations	1995	356
Insoluble particulate matter test	1977	>>142,
Microbiological examination of non-sterile products: microbial enumeration test/tests for specified micro-organism/acceptance criteria for pharmaceutical products and substances for pharmaceutical use	1995	37 dosage forms, >>81
Disintegration test	1953	1068
Content uniformity test	1985	347
Dissolution test	1985	657
Sterility test	1953	15 dosage forms, >>746
Tablet friability test	2000	/
Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis	1990	62
Capillary electrophoresis	2000	3
Analytical sieving	2000	273
Bulk density and tapped density determination method	2020	/
Bacterial endotoxins test	1993	>589

Long history of use  
Lots of varieties in use

1. Substitution of the original text

**0923 片剂脆碎度检查法**

本药典原载于《中国药典》二部《通则》第1010项。其原文为：取供试品约0.5g，置于脆碎度测定仪中，按规定的速度，在规定的时间内，进行脆碎度检查。其原文为：取供试品约0.5g，置于脆碎度测定仪中，按规定的速度，在规定的时间内，进行脆碎度检查。

**(1216) 片剂脆碎度检查法**

本药典原载于《中国药典》二部《通则》第1010项。其原文为：取供试品约0.5g，置于脆碎度测定仪中，按规定的速度，在规定的时间内，进行脆碎度检查。其原文为：取供试品约0.5g，置于脆碎度测定仪中，按规定的速度，在规定的时间内，进行脆碎度检查。

图 片剂脆碎度检查装置

2. Substitution of the original text + special consideration

0542 毛细管电泳法

毛细管电泳法是指以弹性石英毛细管为分离通道，以高压直流电场为驱动力，根据供试品中各组分淌度(单位电场强度下的迁移速度)和(或)分配行为的差异而实现分离的一种分析方法。

当将载有离子型化合物的溶液注入毛细管中，管内壁上硅羟基(负电性)与溶液中的阳离子(正电性)形成双电层(电势)，即在较低pH值缓冲液中情况也如此。当毛细管外加加上直流电压时带正电的溶质颗粒都向阳极移动。此种在电场作用下溶液的集体移动称为电渗流(EOF)。内径硅基的淌度与操作缓冲液pH值和施加的电压有关。降低缓冲液pH值会降低淌度，减小电渗流；提高缓冲液pH值会提高淌度，增加电渗流。有添加剂加入时会抑制内径硅基的解离，减小电渗流。在操作缓冲液中带电粒子在电场作用下以不同速度向相反的方向移动，形成电泳。电泳速度等于其电泳速度和电渗流速度的矢量和。通常电泳速度大于电渗流速度，因此电泳时各组分即是阴离子也从毛细管阳极端流向阴极端。为了减小或消除电渗流，除了降低操作缓冲液pH值或改变添加剂的种类之外，还可以采用内径聚酰胺涂层的毛细管。这种涂层毛细管可减少大分子在管壁上的吸附。

1. 分离模式

当以毛细管空管为分离载体时毛细管电泳有以下几种模式。

(1) 毛细管区带电泳(CZE) 将待分析物引入毛细管一端，施加直流电压后，各组分按各自的电泳和电渗流的矢量和流向毛细管出口端。按阳离子、中性粒子和阴离子及其他离子的大小顺序通过检测器。中性组分彼此不能分离，出峰时间为迁移时间( $t_m$ )，相当于高效液相色谱和气相色谱中的保留时间。

3. 原文+协调案并行

0841 炽灼残渣检查法

取供试品 1.0~2.0g 或各品种项下规定的重量，置已灼灼至恒重的坩埚(如供试品分子结构中含有碱金属或氟元素，则应用铂坩埚)中，精密称定，缓缓灼灼至完全炭化，放冷；除另有规定外，加硫酸 0.5~1ml 使湿润，低温加热至硫酸蒸气除尽后，在 700~800℃ 灼灼使完全炭化，移置干燥器内，放冷，精密称定后，再在 700~800℃ 灼灼至恒重，即得。

如需将残渣留作重金属检查，则灼灼温度必须控制在 500~600℃。

+ ICH Q4B annex 1 method

本通则部分内容已经与《欧洲药典》和《日本药方》的对应通则进行了协调。没有协调的段落以符号(★)标注。这些协调的内容在药典中可以互用，《欧洲药典》和《日本药方》中的协调方法可以替代美国药典本通则用于判定是否符合规定。三方药典不会单独改变协调了的通则内容。

炽灼残渣或硫酸化灰检查法用于检查药品经硫酸溶解后不易挥发的残留杂质。本检查法通常用于检查在组织中的无机杂质。

Retaining the style of Chinese Pharmacopoeia with modifications to the text

Gradually less difficult to harmonise

Name of methods	Number of variety reference	Time since first inclusion (20 years)	Reference of TCM variety	Principle of application			Initial intentional approach
				Formal differences in style, presentation, etc.	Substantial differences affecting result determination	ChP is more advanced	
Dissolution test	Big	Long	Yes	Small	Big	None	Original text in parallel
Insoluble particulate matter test	Big	Long	Yes	Small	Medium	None	Original text in parallel
Disintegration test	Big	Long	Yes	Small	Big	None	Original text in parallel
Analytical sieving	Big	Long	Yes	Big	Big	None	Original text in parallel
Residue on ignition test	Big	Long	Yes	Small	Big	None	Original text in parallel
Capillary electrophoresis	Small	Medium	None	Big	None	Yes	Substitution of the original text + special consideration/revision
Tablet friability test	None	Medium	None	Small	Small	None	Substitution of the original text/substitution+ revision
Bulk density and tapped density determination method	None	Small	None	Small	None	None	Substitution of the original text

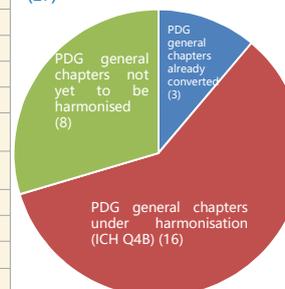
## Harmonisation of PDG harmonisation programmes

17

Harmonisation programme No.	Content of PDG harmonisation	Harmonisation programme No.	Content of PDG harmonisation
G01	Analytical sieving (8/5/2007)	G21	Dynamic light scattering (under harmonisation)
G02	Bulk density and tapped density determination method (6/11/2013)	Q01	Dissolution test (10/6/2010)
G03	Electrical conductivity test (13/9/2017)	Q02	Disintegration test (30/10/2007)
G04	Gas pycnometer method for solid density (8/5/2007)	Q03/04	Content uniformity test (9/11/2010)
G05	Powder flowability test (10/6/2007)	Q05a	Specified micro-organism test (5/6/2008)
G06	Tablet friability test (18/2/2004)	Q05b	Microbial enumeration test (10/6/2009)
G07	Metallic impurities (under harmonisation)	Q05c	Limits of non-sterile products (27/6/2013)
G08	Inhalation products (removed from PDG plan)	Q06	Bacterial endotoxins test (16/6/2011)
G09	Optical microscope (10/6/2004)	Q07	Colour instrumentation examination method (26/10/2016)
G10	Powder fineness test (8/5/2007)	Q08	Test for extractable volume of parenteral preparations (9/11/2010)
G11	Specific surface area test (10/11/2003)	Q09	Insoluble particulate matter test (6/6/2012)
G12	Porosimetry (8/5/2007)	Q10	Residue on ignition test (4/8/2005)
G13	Light scattering test for particle size (11/11/2008)	Q11	Sterility test (10/6/2009)
G14	X-ray powder diffraction method (30/10/2007)	B01	Amino acid determination (28/4/2017)
G15	Water-solid interaction (10/9/2002)	B02	Capillary electrophoresis (9/6/2010)
G16	Thermal analysis (26/6/2014)	B03	Isoelectric focusing electrophoresis (9/9/2002)
G17	Delivery dosage uniformity of inhalation products (under harmonisation)	B04	Protein test (removed from PDG plan)
G18	Solution calorimetry for crystallinity determination (16/6/2011)	B05	Peptide map method (10/9/2002)
G19	Solid density test (3/6/2008)	B06	Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (26/6/2014)
G20	Chromatography (under harmonisation)		...

PDG harmonisation programmes (39 general chapters)

PDG general chapters included in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia (27)



PDG general chapters not included in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia (10)

2 removed from PDG plan

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## Overview of PDG general chapters included in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia

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No.	Testing methods	Main difference
B03	Isoelectric focusing electrophoresis	The PDG harmonisation programme focuses on the elaboration of principles and theories. The introduction of electrophoresis apparatus does not include detailed operation and is not for specific varieties. However, the Chinese Pharmacopoeia has detailed description of electrophoresis process and are specific to some varieties.
G16	Thermal analysis	The structure of the text is different, the Chinese Pharmacopoeia has a clearer structure while the analysis of low eutectic impurities in the PDG harmonisation programme is more specific.
Q07	Colour instrumentation examination method	The principles of the method are basically the same, but there are differences in the method of determination, calibration of the instrument, general requirements for the instrument, text structure and description.
G20	Chromatography	Differences in text structure, requirements for trailing factors, formulae for calculating separation degree, range of adjustment of chromatographic parameters, calculation of signal-to-noise ratio
G13	Light scattering test for particle size	1. Different text structure. The method is the 3rd method of light scattering in ChP 0982 particle size and particle size distribution test, which is more focused on practical applications, while PDG is a separate harmonisation programme; 2. PDG harmonisation programme is a separate method in pharmacopoeias of many countries, which is more focused on theoretical introduction.
G14	X-ray powder diffraction method	Different text structure. The Chinese Pharmacopoeia is more focused on practical applications and is divided into the first method of single crystal X-ray diffraction and the second method of powder X-ray diffraction; the PDG harmonisation programme is more focused on theoretical introduction, which is divided into sections on introduction, basic principles, instrumentation, sample preparation, instrument performance, qualitative and quantitative analysis, estimation of amorphous and crystallinity, and single crystal structure.

### PDG general chapters not included in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia

#### 1. Research programmes already initiated to improve the standards

Research programmes have already been initiated to improve the standards for 5 PDG methods, including B01 amino acid determination, G05 powder flowability test, G07 metallic impurities, G15 water-solid interaction and G21 dynamic light scattering.

#### 2. Research programmes not yet initiated to improve the standards

No research programmes have been initiated to improve the standards for the other 5 PDG methods, including G03 electrical conductivity test, G09 optical microscope, G10 powder fineness test, G12 porosimetry and G18 solution calorimetry for crystallinity determination.



PDG general chapters not included in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia (10)

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Looking forward to  
collaborating with EP  
Thank you!

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- An API of a certain quality is always of the same quality, regardless of how it is tested. Nevertheless, there are numerous (small and big) differences between the pharmacopoeial monographs for the API.
- The use of the different methods and/or calculations does not contribute to the quality and/or the safety of the API.
- For Industry it is hard to see why so much differences are there and why it is apparently so difficult to harmonize.
- Regulatory agencies all around the world often require compliance with the local pharmacopoeia, without recognition of other pharmacopoeia.
- Even for “new” topics (think nitrosamines as an example) it turns out to be impossible to have a harmonized approach.

## **Talking Points on Pharmacopoeia Harmonization for the September EDQM Conference**

**Manufacturing and Quality Working Group**

20 Sep 2022  
Stephen Corrigan, Amgen

## **Thoughts on Pharmacopoeial Harmonization**

### **Opportunities implementing reliance approaches**

- Overarching patient focus by acceptance of demonstrated equivalence
- Expansion of the Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) to involve new ICH members
- Collaborating and work-sharing to increase of efficiency of the process
- Continuous improvement towards alignment of general chapters

#### **Observation Complementary standards by national pharmacopoeia**

- Not harmonized methods and specification limits
- Execute multiple testing programs for individual compendial monographs
- Individual methods - slightly differently executed - achieve comparable results

- #### **Definitions**
- **Same text: Harmonization**  
Align individual monographs and general chapters by collaboration (e.g., ICH Q4B)
  - **Accept equivalence: Reliance**  
Recognizing the pharmacopoeial standards from another country benefiting from reduced resources, (including environmental, time, bureaucracy).
  - **Recognize similarities: Convergence**  
Independent development of similarities between separate pharmacopoeias