



Ph. Eur. General Notices

Certain monographs require the use of reference standards. The European Pharmacopoeia Commission establishes the official reference standards, which are alone authoritative in case of arbitration.

These reference standards are available from the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM).



LIMITS

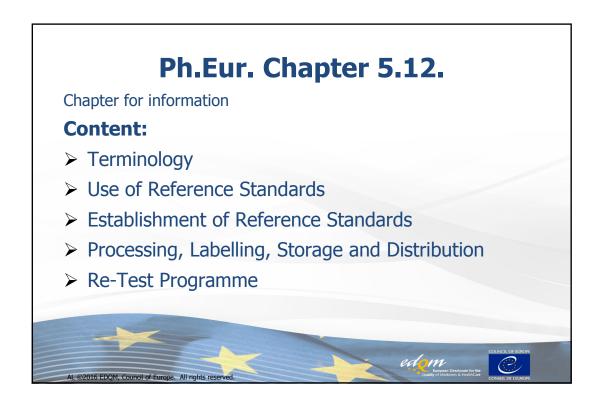
Ph. Eur. General Notices

The limits prescribed in a monograph are based on data obtained in normal analytical practice; they take account of normal analytical errors, of acceptable variations in manufacture and compounding and of deterioration to an extent considered acceptable.

No further tolerances are to be applied to the limits prescribed to determine whether the article being examined complies with the requirement of the monograph.







PH. EUR. REFERENCE STANDARDS

Ph. Eur. Chapter 5.12. 4/2015

The term "Reference standard" is used as a general term covering reference substances, preparations and spectra.

"Reference standards" are used to achieve adequate quality control of substances for pharmaceutical use and pharmaceutical preparations.



PH. EUR. REFERENCE STANDARDS

Ph. Eur. Chapter 5.12. 4/2015

Ph.Eur. RS: reference standard established under the aegis of and adopted by the European Pharmacopoeia Commission.

Ph. Eur. chemical reference substance (CRS) & biological reference preparation (BRP): substance or mixture of substances intended for use as stated in a monograph or general chapter of the European Pharmacopoeia.

Ph. Eur. herbal reference substance (HRS): herbal drug preparation or herbal drug intended for use as stated in a monograph or general chapter of the European Pharmacopoeia.



TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

ISO GUIDE 30:2015 - Ph. Eur. Chapter 5.12. 4/2015

Reference Material

Material, sufficiently homogeneous and stable with respect to one or more specified properties¹, which has been established to be fit for its intended use² in a measurement process.

- ¹ Properties can be quantitative or qualitative
- ² Uses may include calibration/assessment of a measurement system/procedure, assigning values to other materials and quality control

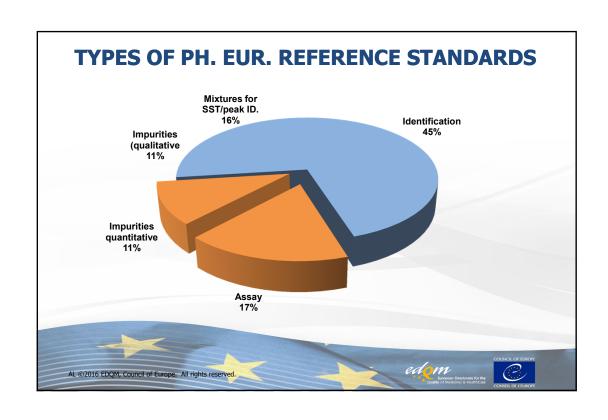


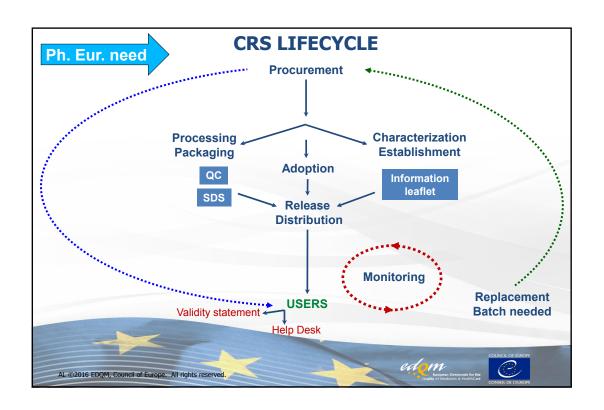
ISO GUIDE 30:2015 - Ph. Eur. Chapter 5.12. 4/2015

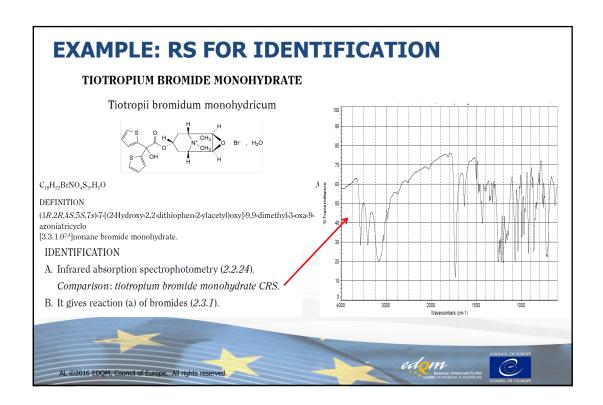
Certified Reference Material (CRM)

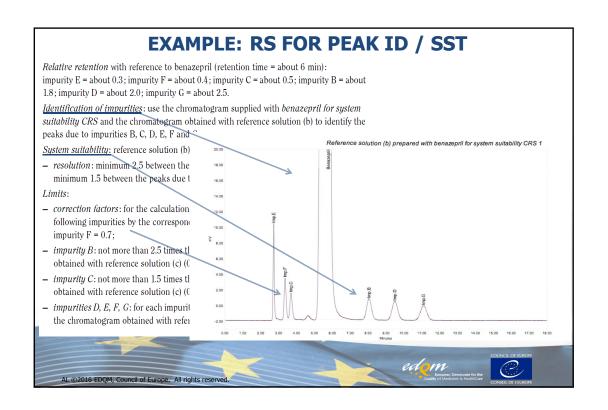
Reference material characterized by a metrologically valid procedure for one or more specified properties, accompanied by a certificate that provides the value of the specified property, its associated uncertainty, and a statement of metrological traceability.

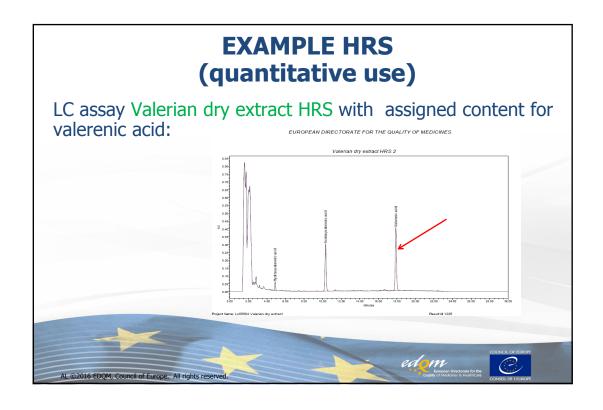


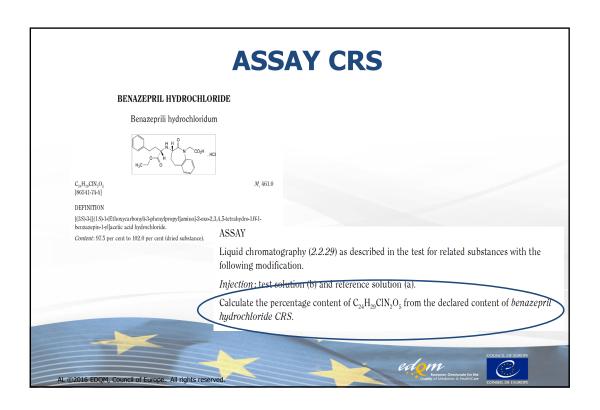










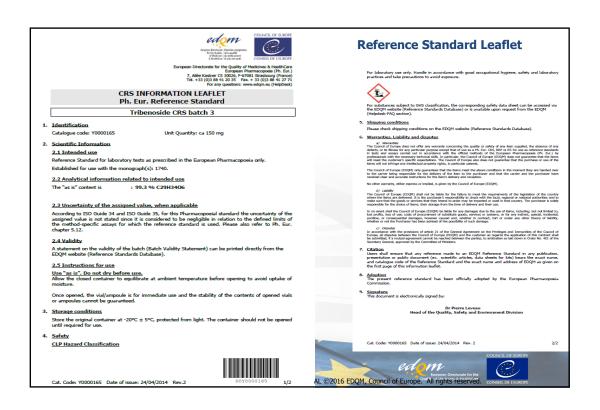


Ph. Eur. assay reference standards – why no uncertainty?

ISO GUIDE 34: 2009 – 5.17

ISO GUIDE 31: 2015 – 5.3.2

In some cases that are covered by specific legislation (e.g. most pharmacopoeia assay standards) the uncertainties of the assigned values are not stated since they are considered to be negligible in relation to the defined limits of the method specific assays for which they are used.



Monitoring (retest-programme) No expiry date is given: see batch validity statement After establishment and adoption there is a standardized testing procedure in order to assure the « fitness for use » of the reference standards. Depending on the use and the known or predicted stability, substances are retested every 12, 24, 36 or 60 months Items of retesting: All properties which might be subject to change in the life cycle of a CRS, e.g.: Water content Purity by LC, GC or TLC Possibly IR, UV



Secondary Standards - Requirements

Ph.Eur. 5.12 paragraph 4-5. (for information)

A secondary standard should exhibit the same property or properties as the primary standard, relevant for the test(s) for which it is established. The extent of testing is not so great as is required for the establishment of a primary standard. The secondary standard is established by comparison with the primary standard to which it is **traceable**. An official primary standard is used wherever possible for establishment of secondary standards.

→ It is the responsibility of the user to justify/document the suitability of secondary standards.



EU GMP Annex VI - 6.20

Whenever compendial reference standards from an official source exist, these should preferably be used as primary reference standards unless fully justified

the use of secondary standards is permitted once their **traceability to primary standards** has been demonstrated and is documented.



