

---

# Prospective harmonisation of quality standards: A model for pharmacopoeial convergence

10 June 2022

**Andrea F. Carney**  
United States Pharmacopeia  
Department - SM



**Aurélie Barth**  
European Pharmacopoeia  
Department - EDQM,  
Council of Europe

---

1



## Outline

---

- Background - Ph. Eur. and USP harmonisation
- How this differs from PDG harmonisation
- Advantages of effective pharmacopoeial collaboration
- Advantages of prospective harmonisation
- Pilot phase and post-pilot activities of prospective harmonisation to date
- Monograph elaboration for the Ph. Eur. and USP
- How Ph. Eur. and USP monographs can differ
- Which products are eligible for prospective harmonisation?
- Ph. Eur. and USP contact information
- Useful links to harmonisation overviews for the Ph. Eur. and USP

---

2



## Background – Ph. Eur. / USP harmonisation

- **Aim:** similar standards in Europe / US

↳ Beneficial for manufacturers; cost and time savings

- **PDG** launched in 1989

First draft → Official inquiry → Consensus → Regional adoption/Implementation → Inter-regional acceptance

- **Prospective harmonisation**

- **Pilot phase** launched in 2008
- 4 official monographs (Celecoxib, Montelukast sodium, Rizatriptan benzoate, and Sildenafil citrate)
- **Post-pilot phase**
- 19 official monographs (10 active substances and 9 medicinal products)
- 22 in various stages of development

- **Continue to increase awareness and manufacturer participation**

3



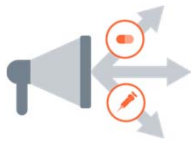
## Comparison with PDG harmonisation

	PDG Harmonisation	Ph. Eur. and USP Prospective Harmonisation
Goal	Align test procedures and limits to a common quality standard Texts do not have to be identical	
Launched	1989	2008
Participating pharmacopoeias	Ph. Eur., USP, JP, WHO (joined as observer in 2001)	Ph. Eur. and USP
Focus	Revisions to existing excipient monographs and general chapters	New active substance and medicinal product monographs for products still under patent
Process	Official procedure	Respective internal processes for monograph elaboration
Work initiation	Determined by the PDG	Manufacturers' request (subject to the agreement of the Ph. Eur. and USP)

4



## Advantages of effective pharmacopoeial collaboration



### PROMOTE

**Access** to quality medicines, leveraging global expertise



### INCREASE

#### Visibility

**Importance** of pharmacopoeias

**Value** of public quality standards



### FACILITATE

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



### PRIORITIZE

**Balance** current paradigms and future trends



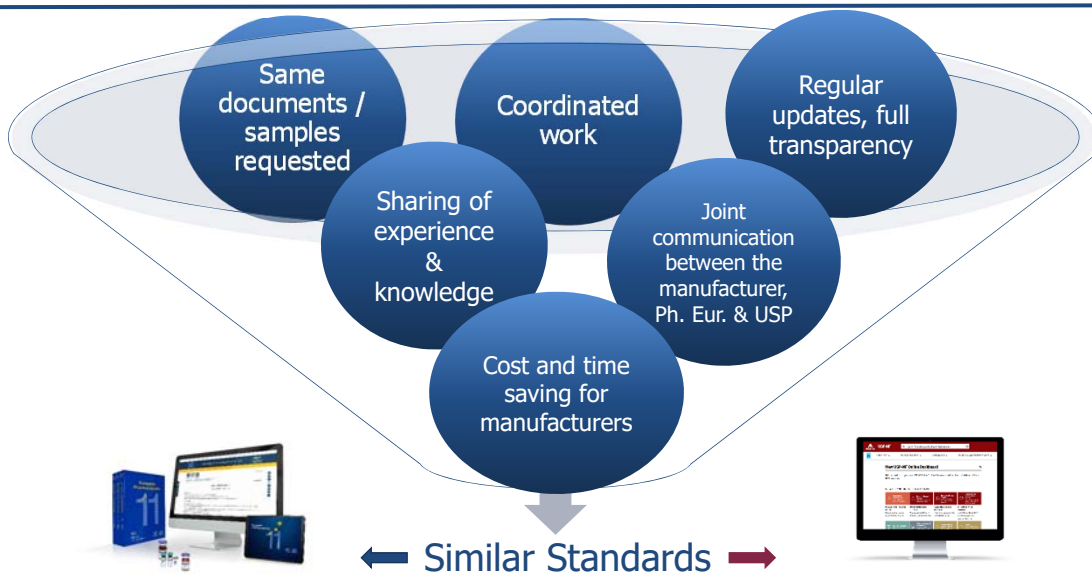
### ENABLE

**Global** pharmaceutical trade

5



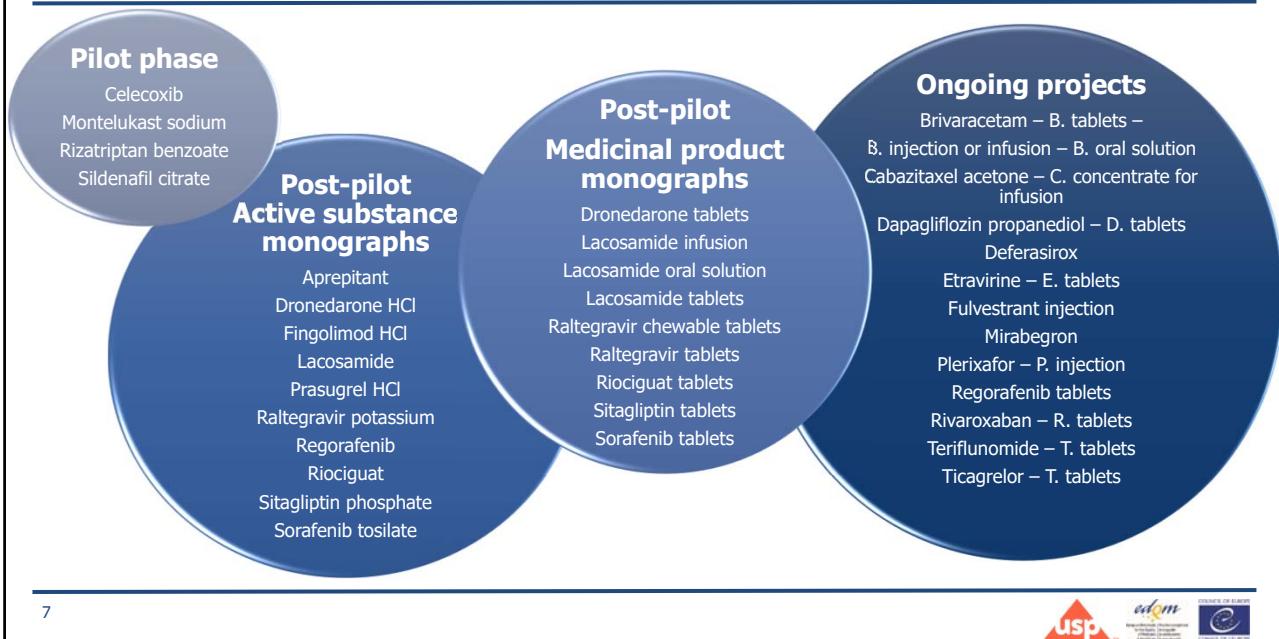
## Advantages of prospective harmonisation



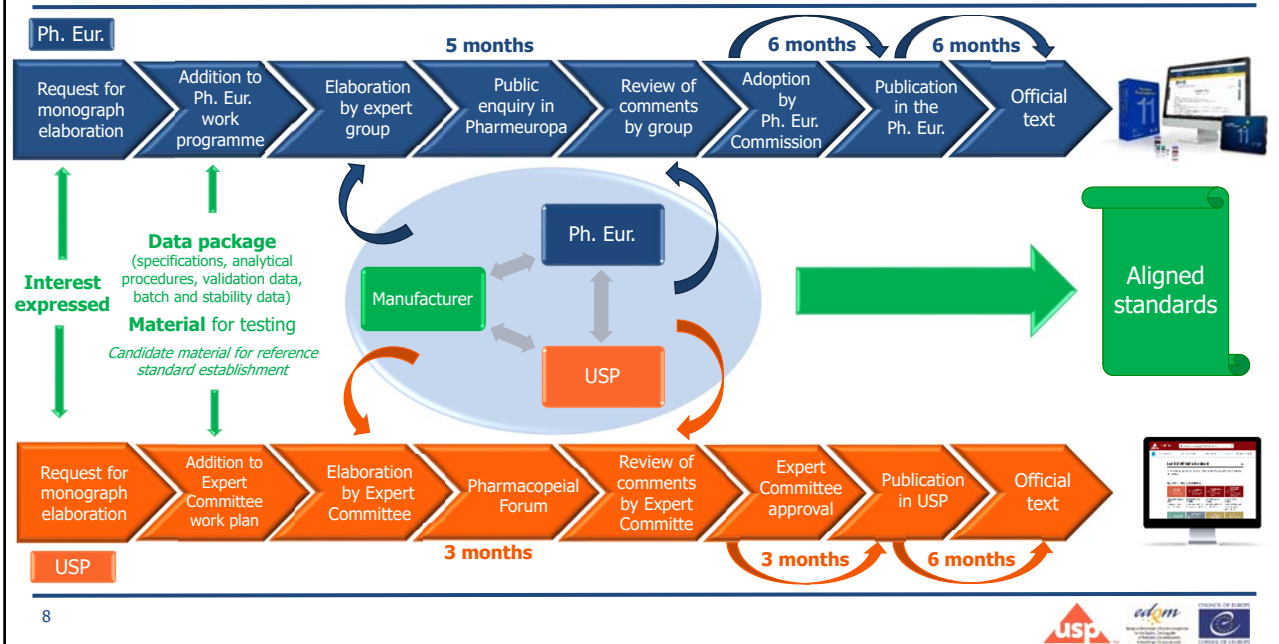
6



# Monographs to date



# Ph. Eur. and USP monograph elaboration



# Some differences between Ph. Eur. and USP

<p><b>Limits as approved by competent authorities</b> (e.g. content, dissolution, impurities)</p> <p style="background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;">Specific to the US market</p> <p style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; text-align: center;">Specific to the European market</p>	<p><b>Limits as set in the individual pharmacopoeias</b></p> <p style="background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;">Generally based on FDA approved limits</p> <p style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; text-align: center;">Based on limits approved in Ph. Eur. member states (may be adapted based on batch/stability data)</p>	<p><b>Dissolution test</b></p> <p style="background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;">Several tests</p> <p style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; text-align: center;">One test</p>
<p><b>Solutions</b></p> <p style="background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;">Concentrations and/or exact amounts to be used (masses, volumes)</p> <p style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; text-align: center;">Generally exact amounts to be used (masses, volumes)</p>	<p><b>System suitability tests</b> (Tests for impurities / Assay)</p> <p style="background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;">Resolution, sensitivity, RSD in monographs</p> <p style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; text-align: center;">Resolution or p/v ratio in monographs Generally, sensitivity &amp; RSD rely on 2.2.46</p>	<p><b>Impurity identification</b></p> <p style="background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;">Relative retentions and/or reference standards for impurities</p> <p style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; text-align: center;">Reference standards for specified impurities and those used for SST No relative retentions for unspecified impurities</p>

9



# Eligible products



10



## Contact information

---

**Ph. Eur.** – [epd@edqm.eu](mailto:epd@edqm.eu) or via the [HelpDesk](#)

**USP** – Richard Lew ([RLL@usp.org](mailto:RLL@usp.org))

## Useful links

---

### Ph. Eur.

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/pharmacopoeial-harmonisation>

Elaboration of a monograph (Procedure 4) <https://go.edqm.eu/ElaborationP4>

News item "*All you ever wanted to know about procedure 4 but never dared ask!*"  
<https://www.edqm.eu/en/news/all-you-ever-wanted-know-about-ph-eur-procedure-4-never-dared-ask>

### USP

<https://www.usp.org/harmonized-standards-overview>

## Acknowledgements

---

### **USP**

Ed Gump, Kevin Moore, Richard Lew

### **Ph. Eur.**

Cathie Vielle, Bruno Spieldenner

### **EDQM Public Relations team**

13



## Thank you for your attention

---



### **Stay connected with the EDQM**

EDQM Newsletter: <https://go.edqm.eu/Newsletter>  
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/edqm/>  
Twitter: [@edqm\\_news](https://twitter.com/edqm_news)  
Facebook: [@EDQMCouncilofEurope](https://www.facebook.com/EDQMCouncilofEurope)



### **Stay connected with USP**

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/uspharmacoepia>  
Instagram: [@uspharmacoepia](https://www.instagram.com/uspharmacoepia)  
Twitter: [@USPharmacoepia](https://twitter.com/USPharmacoepia)  
Facebook: [@USPharmacoepia](https://www.facebook.com/USPharmacoepia)

14

