

BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

Panel of Experts BIO: Biological and Biotechnological Products

SUMMARY MINUTES

The second meeting of the Panel was held at Market Towers, 1 Nine Elms Lane, London SW8 5NQ on Wednesday 17th October 2007.

Present: Mrs M Dow (Chair), Dr L Tsang (Vice-chair), Prof D H Calam, Dr S Poole, Mr W Tarbit, Dr A Thomas.

In attendance: Dr R A Pask-Hughes and Dr A Ruggiero.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr A F Bristow, Dr J Cook, Mr A M Pickett, Dr D Sesardic and Mr P Sheppard.

I MINUTES

- 34 The minutes of the meeting of the Panel of Experts BIO: Biological and Biotechnological Products held on 17th October 2006 were confirmed.

II MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 35 **Heparin Injections** Advice had been received that clinical differences between Heparin Sodium Injection and Heparin Calcium Injection were not known. As a result, there was no need for separate monographs for each of the two salt forms.
- 36 **Non-invasive Insulin Treatments** The title of the general monograph for Insulin Preparations had been amended to Injectable Insulin Preparations in the BP 2008 as agreed. The recommendation for preparation of a Ph Eur monograph for inhalable Insulin Preparation had been brought to the attention of the Secretary to the UKD.
- 37 **Safety Tests: Mallein Purified Protein Derivative (BP Vet)** Advice had been received that the product was no longer authorised for use in the UK.
- 38 **Botulinum Antitoxin** A request for the revision of the section on Identification and an amendment to the Assay had been forwarded to the EPC.
- 39 **General monographs for Antisera and Vaccines** The title of the general monograph for Antisera had been amended to Immunosera and an equivalent change had been made to the monograph for Veterinary Antisera in the BP 2008. The former titles had been included as subsidiary titles.
- 40 **Monograph Format** The view of the Panel of Experts: BIO on the format of certain monographs had not been accepted by EAG: Pharmacy (PCY).

III REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 41 **General Matters** BIO(07)1

Annual report of the BPC The annual report was awaiting approval.

BP editorial style Members were informed that the BP editorial style for chromatographic procedures had been revised bringing it more in line with that in the Ph. Eur.

42 Work Programme of Panel of Experts BIO: Update BIO(07)2

European Pharmacopoeia The current relevant work programmes were noted.

British Pharmacopoeia The current work programme of Panel BIO was provided together with target publication dates for the monographs. The BP 2008 had been published in August 2007 and would come into effect on 1 January 2008. The two new BP monographs for Insulin Aspart Injection and Insulin Lispro Injection had been included.

Leuprorelin Injection The monograph to be drafted would be based on Ph. Eur. monograph for Leuprorelin.

Hepatitis A (Inactivated) and Typhoid Vaccine The BPC had agreed that a monograph for Hepatitis A (Inactivated) and Typhoid Vaccine should be prepared based on the relevant Ph. Eur. monographs for the separate component vaccines.

Insulin Glargine A need for a monograph for the bulk material had been identified in the UK. The UKD had agreed that a request for inclusion in the Ph. Eur. work programme would be made to the EPC.

Omissions The monographs for Gonadorelin Hydrochloride, Gonadorelin Injection, Percutaneous Bacillus Calmette-Guerin Vaccine, Tetanus Vaccine, Schick Test Toxin and Schick Control had been omitted from the BP 2008 as agreed.

43 Vaccine Abbreviations BIO(07)3

A paper was received outlining the action taken since the previous meeting of Panel BIO. The new edition of the publication Immunisation against Infectious Disease (the Green Book), produced by the Department of Health had maintained the use of 'D' and 'd' to represent the high/normal dose and the low doses of the antigen respectively. It was acknowledged that use of more than one set of abbreviations might cause confusion.

A draft position paper entitled 'Vaccine abbreviation position paper for WHO from the BPC' was undergoing preparation for submission to the WHO.

44 Gonadorelin Hydrochloride and Gonadorelin Injection BIO(07)4

The monographs for the bulk material and injection had been omitted from the BP 2008 since they were no longer appropriate. New monographs for Gonadorelin Hydrochloride and Gonadorelin Injection were to be drafted.

Gonadorelin Acetate Members were informed that Gonadorelin Acetate and Gonadorelin Hydrochloride were both recommended International Non-proprietary Names (INN).

45 Endotoxins

BIO(07)5

A statement concerning the Bacterial endotoxins had been included in MAIL 163.

Endotoxin limit concentration It was agreed that the values should be expressed in terms of volume. The proposals should be checked against available data concerning the route of administration and the maximum dose.

Maximum Valid Dilution The statement concerning the Maximum Valid Dilution (MDV) in the test for Bacterial endotoxins would be deleted from specific monographs. The matter was addressed in Appendix XIV C and Supplementary Chapter I C.

46 Monocyte Activation Test

BIO(07)6

A meeting of the Ph.Eur. Monocyte Activation Test (MAT) Working Party had been held in November 2006. In view of the progress made by the Ph Eur Working Party, inclusion of the test in the BP might not be warranted.

47 Erythropoietin Concentrated Solution

BIO(07)7

Additional labelling requirements Clarification concerning the BP label statement relating to the INN and the approved code on the method of production was to be sought from EAG: PCY and EAG: NOM Secretariat.

**48 Sterile Plastic Containers for Blood and Blood Components:
Appendix XIX D 1.**

BIO(07)8

Members noted that sterile plastic containers were Class I Medical Devices. Consequently any advice should be brought to the attention of the relevant section of Medical Devices of the MHRA and BP Panel of Experts on Blood-related Products (BLP).

Recommendations to move certain requirements to the opening paragraphs of D 1 would be brought to the attention of the UKD.

49 Menotrophin and Menotrophin Injection

BIO(07)9

hCG levels It was noted that the the hormone was present in the urine of pregnant women only and consequently should only be detected if it was added to achieve the requirement of 1:1 ratio of luteinising hormone to follicle stimulating hormone. It was confirmed that the levels of hCG should be determined when the hormone is added to the drug substance and that the labelling requirement for hCG activity should be retained in both monographs.

Water The replacement of the gas chromatographic method with the Karl Fisher method was agreed subject to receipt of satisfactory validation data.

Storage The proposal to be put to EAG: PCY for the deletion of the shelf life recommendations was supported. It was noted that this also applied to the Storage statements for Menotrophin, Calcitonin (Salmon) Injection and Ergometrine and Oxytocin Injection.

IV REVISION OF MONOGRAPHS

50 Desmopressin Injection; Desmopressin Intranasal Solution BIO(07)12

Draft revised monographs for Desmopressin Injection and Desmopressin Intranasal Solution had been prepared.

50.1 Acidity Revision of the limits to 3.3 to 6.0 (currently 3.5 to 5.0) for the injection and 3.5 to 5.2 (currently 3.5 to 5.0) for the intranasal solution had been requested. It was agreed that confirmation should be sought on the acceptability of the proposed limits.

50.2 Related substances The test for Related substances and the limits given in the Ph Eur monograph had been included in the draft revised monographs for the injection and intranasal solution. Confirmation would be sought on the acceptability of limits of not more than 4.0% for any impurity and not more than 5.0% for total impurities in the injection.

51 Assay of Tetanus Vaccine (Adsorbed): BIO(07)10
Appendix XIV K, Section 3

It was agreed in principle to a change in the wording of the italicised statement at the start of Ph Eur test method for the Assay of Tetanus Vaccine (adsorbed) (Ph. Eur. text 2.9.3) as reproduced in the BP 2008 (Appendix XIV K, section 3).

V MONOGRAPHS IN PROGRESS

52 Erythropoietin Injection BIO(06)11

The draft monograph would be included in a future BP publication, subject to comments from stakeholders.

53 Desmopressin Tablets BIO(07)12

The draft monograph would be included in a future BP publication, subject to comments from stakeholders.

54 Goserelin Implants BIO(07)13

The draft monograph would be included in a future BP publication, subject to comments from stakeholders.

55 Interferon Alfa-2 Injection BIO(07)14

The draft monograph would be included in a future BP publication, subject to comments from stakeholders.

56 Human Glucagon Injection BIO(07)19

The draft monograph would be included in a future BP publication, subject to comments from stakeholders.

V NEW MONOGRAPH

57 Haemophilus Type b and Meningococcus Group C Conjugate Vaccine BIO(07)15

The draft monograph would be included in a future BP publication, subject to comments from stakeholders.

VI EUROPEAN PHARMACOPOEIA

58 Comments from the BPC BIO(07)16

It was noted that statements of Comments from the BPC had been sent to Strasbourg.

59 Texts adopted at the 126th, 127th and 128th Sessions BIO(07)17

Lists of the documents relevant to the work of Groups of Experts 6 and 15 and adopted at the 126th, 127th and 128th Sessions of the European Pharmacopoeia Commission (November 2006, March 2007 and June 2007) were provided for information.

List of Acronyms/Synonyms

Acronym/Synonym	Name
BAN	British Approved Name
BP	British Pharmacopoeia
BP (Vet)	British Pharmacopoeia (Veterinary)
BPC	British Pharmacopoeia Commission
BPCRS	British Pharmacopoeia Chemical Reference Substance
BRP	Biological Reference Preparation
BSP	Biological Standardisation Programme
CHM	Commission on Human Medicines
CRS	Chemical Reference Substance
EAG	Expert Advisory Group
EPBRP	European Pharmacopoeia Biological Reference Preparation
EPC	European Pharmacopoeia Commission
EPCRS	European Pharmacopoeia Chemical Reference Substance
EU	European Union
FIP	International Pharmaceutical Federation
FOI	Freedom of Information
GC	Gas chromatography
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
LC	Liquid chromatography
LD	Licensing Division
LGC	Laboratory of the Government Chemist, Teddington
LR	BP Laboratory Report
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
NIBSC	National Institute for Biological Standards and Control
NOAH	National Office of Animal Health
NPA	National Pharmacopoeial Authority
OMCL	Official Medicines Control Laboratory
Ph. Eur.	European Pharmacopoeia
TGA	Therapeutic Goods Administration, Australia
TLC	Thin layer chromatography
UK	United Kingdom
UKD	United Kingdom Delegation [to the European Pharmacopoeia]
USP	United States Pharmacopoeia
Group of Experts 6	European Pharmacopoeia Group of Experts 6: Biological Substances
Group of Experts 7	European Pharmacopoeia Group of Experts 7: Antibiotics
Group of Experts 15	European Pharmacopoeia Group of Experts 15: Sera and Vaccines
Ph. Eur. Working Party CTP	European Pharmacopoeia Working Party: Cell Therapy Products
Ph. Eur. Working Party GTP	European Pharmacopoeia Working Party: Gene Therapy Products