



U.S. Pharmacopeia
The Standard of QualitySM

The USP Ingredient Verification Program

Overview

The United States Pharmacopeia's Ingredient Verification Program (USP-IVP) verifies ingredients used to manufacture and market dietary supplements in the United States and around the world. It is a natural progression of USP's long history of establishing officially recognized public standards for medicines and dietary supplements. USP has been a trusted and recognized source of standards for identity, strength, quality and purity of medicines and dietary supplements since 1820.

The program verifies ingredients such as vitamins, minerals, amino acids, botanical extracts and nonbotanicals as well as other ingredients used as either an active or inactive ingredient in the manufacture of dietary supplement products.

The USP-IVP process includes:

- Evaluation of a manufacturer's quality systems through an audit for compliance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs);
- Review of manufacturing and quality control documents for ingredients submitted for verification;
- Laboratory evaluation of ingredient samples from USP selected lots for compliance with label claim and program requirements;
- Granting of the USP-IVP verification mark; and
- Post-verification surveillance testing of ingredients bearing the USP-IV mark.

The USP-IVP Verification Mark

The use of the USP-IVP verification mark is granted for ingredients that meet the program's requirements for verification. The mark indicates the verification of an ingredient's quality by a trusted and established authority, which is USP. The mark provides dietary supplement manufacturers assurance that:

- The manufacturer's quality system helps to ensure that the ingredient evaluated meets its label or certificate of analysis claim for identity, strength, purity and quality and that it is consistent in quality from batch-to-batch;
- The ingredient is prepared under accepted manufacturing practices; and
- The ingredient meets requirements for acceptable limits of contamination.

Participation

Participation in the program is voluntary and open to companies manufacturing fine chemicals and/or ingredients marketed for use in the dietary supplement industry in the United States or abroad.

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