



Pharmaceutical
Quality Group

The International Pharmaceutical Excipients Council
& The Pharmaceutical Quality Group

The Joint Good Manufacturing Practices Guide For Pharmaceutical Excipients

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This document represents voluntary guidance for the excipient industry and the contents should not be interpreted as regulatory requirements. Alternatives to the approaches in this guide may be used to achieve an equivalent level of assurance for excipient quality.

This guide was created to help companies understand current expectations on this topic and is not intended for use by third party certification bodies to conduct audits or to certify compliance with the guide.

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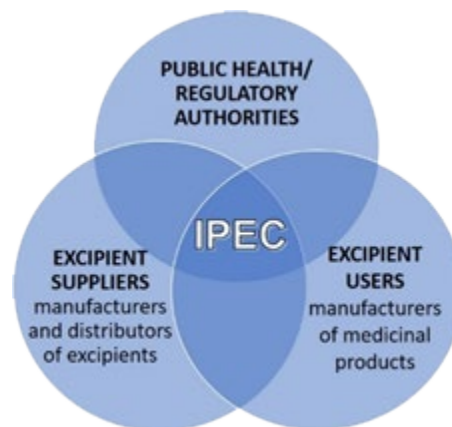
FOREWORD

IPEC

The International Pharmaceutical Excipients Council (IPEC) is an international industry association formed by excipient manufacturers, distributors and users. At the current writing there are regional pharmaceutical excipient industry associations located in the Americas, Europe, Japan, China, and India. IPEC's objective is to contribute to the international excipient standards development and harmonization, provide information useful for new excipient development and introduction, and offer best practice and guidance concerning excipient manufacture.

IPEC has three major stakeholder groups:

1. excipient manufacturers and distributors, defined as suppliers in IPEC documents,
2. pharmaceutical manufacturers, defined as users in this document, and
3. public health and regulatory authorities.



PQG

The PQG was formed in 1977 to promote development of a consistent approach to pharmaceutical quality and good manufacturing practice. The group has since expanded, and in 1990 the PQG published three codes of practice to cover pharmaceutical raw materials, printed and contact packaging materials. In 1995 the codes were revised and were integrated with ISO 9002:1994. The code for raw materials was revised and reissued as PS 9100:2002 Pharmaceutical excipients, an application standard and GMP guide for pharmaceutical excipients.

For further information, visit www.pqg.org.

This guide is intended to be voluntary, to indicate best practice, and to be globally applicable. However, it should be recognized that the rules and regulations applying to excipients will vary from region to region and country to country. In addition, the rules and regulations are continually evolving. It is the responsibility of the reader to review the latest version of the applicable regulatory guidance; however, the version referenced in the guide will be based on the version available at the time the guide was published.

In this guide, pharmaceutical excipient(s) will be referred as excipient(s). This guide may be applied to veterinary medicines, as appropriate with reference to specific veterinary guidance and regulations.

Throughout the guide, justification implies that a decision is made based on a scientific, quality and/or regulatory considerations.

Table of Contents

FOREWORD	1
TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
PART 1 - IPEC-PQG GMP GUIDE	15
1 Introduction	15
1.1 Purpose and scope	15
1.2 Principles adopted	15
1.2.1 <i>The guide and its use</i>	15
1.2.2 <i>Application</i>	16
1.2.3 <i>Quality System standard</i>	16
1.3 Layout and definitions	16
1.3.1 <i>Layout</i>	16
1.3.2 <i>Definitions</i>	17
2 General Guidance	18
3 Excipient GMP implementation	18
4 Context of the organization	19
4.1 Understanding the organization and its context.....	19
4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties	19
4.3 Determining the scope of the Quality Management System	19
4.4 Quality Management System and its processes	20
5 Leadership	21
5.1 Leadership and commitment.....	21
5.1.1 <i>General</i>	21
5.1.2 <i>Customer focus</i>	21
5.2 Quality policy.....	21
5.2.1 <i>Establishing the quality policy</i>	21
5.2.2 <i>Communicating the quality policy</i>	22
5.3 Organizational roles, responsibilities, and authorities	22

6	Planning	24
6.1	Actions to address risks and opportunities in the Quality Management System.	24
6.1.1	<i>Risk Assessment</i>.....	24
6.1.2	<i>Preventive action and continual improvement</i>.....	24
6.2	Quality and GMP objectives and planning to achieve them.....	24
6.3	Planning of changes	25
7	Support.....	25
7.1	Resources.....	25
7.1.1	<i>General</i>.....	25
7.1.2	<i>People</i>	26
7.1.3	<i>Infrastructure</i>.....	26
7.1.3.1	<i>Buildings and facilities</i>	26
7.1.3.2	<i>Equipment</i>.....	27
7.1.3.3	<i>Utilities</i>	28
7.1.3.4	<i>Water</i>	28
7.1.3.5	<i>Recycled or recovered materials</i>	29
7.1.4	<i>Environment for the operation of processes</i>.....	29
7.1.4.1	<i>Environmental air handling</i>.....	30
7.1.4.2	<i>Controlled environment</i>	30
7.1.4.3	<i>Clean and sanitary conditions</i>.....	30
7.1.4.4	<i>Pest control</i>.....	31
7.1.4.5	<i>Personnel hygiene</i>.....	31
7.1.4.6	<i>Lighting</i>	32
7.1.4.7	<i>Drainage</i>	32
7.1.4.8	<i>Waste</i>.....	32
7.1.5	<i>Monitoring and measuring resources</i>.....	32
7.1.5.1	<i>General</i>.....	32
7.1.5.2	<i>Measurement traceability</i>	33
7.1.6	<i>Organizational knowledge</i>.....	33

7.2	Competence.....	33
7.3	Awareness	33
7.4	Communication	34
7.5	Documented information	35
7.5.1	<i>General documentation requirements</i>	35
7.5.2	<i>Creating and updating</i>	36
7.5.3	<i>Control of documented information</i>	37
8	Operation.....	37
8.1	Operational planning and control	37
8.2	Requirements for excipients and GMP services	38
8.2.1	<i>Customer communication</i>	38
8.2.2	<i>Determining the requirements for excipients and GMP services</i>	39
8.2.3	<i>Review of the requirements for excipients and GMP services</i>	39
8.2.4	<i>Changes to requirements for excipients and GMP services</i>	39
8.3	Design and development of excipients and GMP services	39
8.3.1	<i>General</i>	39
8.3.2	<i>Design and development planning</i>	39
8.3.3	<i>Design and development inputs</i>	40
8.3.4	<i>Design and development controls</i>	40
8.3.5	<i>Design and development outputs</i>	41
8.3.6	<i>Design and development changes</i>	41
8.4	Control of externally provided quality critical processes, services and materials..	42
8.4.1	<i>General</i>	42
8.4.2	<i>Type and extent of control</i>	42
8.4.2.1	<i>Control of externally-provided processes and services</i>	42
8.4.2.2	<i>Control of externally-provided materials</i>	42
8.4.3	<i>Information for external providers</i>	43
8.5	Production and GMP service provision.....	44

8.5.1	Control of production and GMP service provision	44
8.5.1.1	Instructions and records	44
8.5.1.2	Equipment cleaning	45
8.5.1.3	Recovery and reuse of materials	46
8.5.1.4	Blending of excipients	46
8.5.1.5	Co-processing of excipients	46
8.5.1.6	In-process control	46
8.5.1.7	Packaging and labeling of excipients	47
8.5.1.8	Validation for production and GMP service provision	47
8.5.2	Identification and traceability	48
8.5.2.1	Traceability	48
8.5.2.2	Inspection and test status	48
8.5.2.3	Labels	48
8.5.3	Property belonging to customers or external providers	49
8.5.4	Preservation	49
8.5.4.1	Handling, storage, and preservation	49
8.5.4.2	Packaging	49
8.5.4.3	Delivery and distribution	50
8.5.5	Post-delivery activities	50
8.5.6	Control of changes	51
8.6	Release of excipients and GMP services	51
8.6.1	Monitoring and measurement	51
8.6.2	Laboratory controls	51
8.6.3	Finished excipient testing and release	53
8.6.4	Out-of-specification test results	53
8.6.5	Retained samples	54
8.6.6	Certificates of analysis	54
8.6.7	Impurities	54
8.6.8	Stability	55

8.6.9	<i>Expiry date or re-evaluation period</i>	55
8.7	Control of nonconforming outputs	55
8.7.1	Control of nonconforming intermediates and finished excipients	55
8.7.1.1	<i>Reprocessing</i>	56
8.7.1.2	<i>Reworking</i>	56
8.7.1.3	<i>Returned excipients</i>	56
8.7.2	Control of nonconforming GMP services	57
8.7.3	Customer complaint handling	58
8.7.4	Recall / Retrieval	58
9	Performance evaluation	59
9.1	Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation	59
9.1.1	<i>General</i>	59
9.1.2	<i>Customer satisfaction</i>	59
9.1.3	<i>Analysis and evaluation</i>	59
9.2	Internal audit	60
9.3	Management review	60
9.3.1	<i>General</i>	60
9.3.2	<i>Management review inputs</i>	61
9.3.3	<i>Management review outputs</i>	61
10	Improvement	62
10.1	General	62
10.2	Nonconformity and corrective action	62
10.3	Continual improvement	63
11	References	64
PART 2 - IPEC-PQG GMP GUIDE AND NOTES		68
1	Introduction	68
1.1	Purpose and scope	68
1.2	Principles adopted	68
1.2.1	<i>The guide and its use</i>	68

1.2.2	<i>Application</i>	69
1.2.3	<i>Quality System standard</i>	69
1.3	Layout and definitions	69
1.3.1	<i>Layout</i>	69
1.3.2	<i>Definitions</i>	70
2	General Guidance	72
3	Excipient GMP implementation	72
4	Context of the organization	73
4.1	Understanding the organization and its context	73
4.2	Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties	75
4.3	Determining the scope of the Quality Management System	76
4.4	Quality Management System and its processes	77
5	Leadership	79
5.1	Leadership and commitment	79
5.1.1	<i>General</i>	79
5.1.2	<i>Customer focus</i>	80
5.2	Quality policy	80
5.2.1	<i>Establishing the quality policy</i>	80
5.2.2	<i>Communicating the quality policy</i>	81
5.3	Organizational roles, responsibilities, and authorities	81
6	Planning	84
6.1	Actions to address risks and opportunities in the Quality Management System	84
6.1.1	<i>Risk Assessment</i>	84
6.1.2	<i>Preventive action and continual improvement</i>	85
6.2	Quality and GMP objectives and planning to achieve them	86
6.3	Planning of changes	87
7	Support	87
7.1	Resources	87
7.1.1	<i>General</i>	87

7.1.2	People	87
7.1.3	Infrastructure	88
7.1.3.1	<i>Buildings and facilities</i>	88
7.1.3.2	<i>Equipment</i>	89
7.1.3.3	<i>Utilities</i>	92
7.1.3.4	<i>Water</i>	92
7.1.3.5	<i>Recycled or recovered materials</i>	94
7.1.4	Environment for the operation of processes	94
7.1.4.1	<i>Environmental air handling</i>	95
7.1.4.2	<i>Controlled environment</i>	95
7.1.4.3	<i>Clean and sanitary conditions</i>	96
7.1.4.4	<i>Pest control</i>	97
7.1.4.5	<i>Personnel hygiene</i>	98
7.1.4.6	<i>Lighting</i>	99
7.1.4.7	<i>Drainage</i>	99
7.1.4.8	<i>Waste</i>	99
7.1.5	Monitoring and measuring resources	100
7.1.5.1	<i>General</i>	100
7.1.5.2	<i>Measurement traceability</i>	101
7.1.6	Organizational knowledge	101
7.2	Competence	102
7.3	Awareness	103
7.4	Communication	104
7.5	Documented information	105
7.5.1	General documentation requirements	105
7.5.2	Creating and updating	109
7.5.3	Control of documented information	109
8	Operation	111
8.1	Operational planning and control	111

8.2	Requirements for excipients and GMP services	111
8.2.1	<i>Customer communication</i>	111
8.2.2	<i>Determining the requirements for excipients and GMP services</i>	112
8.2.3	<i>Review of the requirements for excipients and GMP services</i>	112
8.2.4	<i>Changes to requirements for excipients and GMP services</i>	113
8.3	Design and development of excipients and GMP services	113
8.3.1	<i>General.....</i>	113
8.3.2	<i>Design and development planning</i>	113
8.3.3	<i>Design and development inputs.....</i>	114
8.3.4	<i>Design and development controls</i>	115
8.3.5	<i>Design and development outputs</i>	115
8.3.6	<i>Design and development changes.....</i>	116
8.4	Control of externally provided quality critical processes, services and materials..	117
8.4.1	<i>General.....</i>	117
8.4.2	<i>Type and extent of control.....</i>	117
8.4.2.1	<i>Control of externally-provided processes and services</i>	118
8.4.2.2	<i>Control of externally-provided materials</i>	118
8.4.3	<i>Information for external providers</i>	119
8.5	Production and GMP service provision.....	121
8.5.1	<i>Control of production and GMP service provision</i>	121
8.5.1.1	<i>Instructions and records</i>	121
8.5.1.2	<i>Equipment cleaning.....</i>	123
8.5.1.3	<i>Recovery and reuse of materials</i>	123
8.5.1.4	<i>Blending of excipients</i>	124
8.5.1.5	<i>Co-processing of excipients</i>	124
8.5.1.6	<i>In-process control.....</i>	125
8.5.1.7	<i>Packaging and labeling of excipients.....</i>	125
8.5.1.8	<i>Validation for production and GMP service provision.....</i>	126

8.5.2	Identification and traceability	127
8.5.2.1	Traceability.....	127
8.5.2.2	Inspection and test status.....	128
8.5.2.3	Labels	128
8.5.3	Property belonging to customers or external providers	128
8.5.4	Preservation	129
8.5.4.1	Handling, storage, and preservation	129
8.5.4.2	Packaging	130
8.5.4.3	Delivery and distribution	130
8.5.5	Post-delivery activities	131
8.5.6	Control of changes	132
8.6	Release of excipients and GMP services	132
8.6.1	Monitoring and measurement	132
8.6.2	Laboratory controls	133
8.6.3	Finished excipient testing and release	136
8.6.4	Out-of-specification test results	136
8.6.5	Retained samples	137
8.6.6	Certificates of analysis	137
8.6.7	Impurities	137
8.6.8	Stability	138
8.6.9	Expiry date or re-evaluation period	138
8.7	Control of nonconforming outputs	139
8.7.1	Control of nonconforming intermediates and finished excipients	139
8.7.1.1	Reprocessing	140
8.7.1.2	Reworking	140
8.7.1.3	Returned excipients.....	141
8.7.2	Control of nonconforming GMP services	141
8.7.3	Customer complaint handling	142
8.7.4	Recall / Retrieval	142

9	Performance evaluation	143
9.1	Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation	143
9.1.1	<i>General</i>.....	143
9.1.2	<i>Customer satisfaction</i>.....	143
9.1.3	<i>Analysis and evaluation</i>.....	144
9.2	Internal audit.....	144
9.3	Management review	146
9.3.1	<i>General</i>.....	146
9.3.2	<i>Management review inputs</i>.....	146
9.3.3	<i>Management review outputs</i>	147
10	Improvement	147
10.1	General.....	147
10.2	Nonconformity and corrective action	148
10.3	Continual improvement	149
11	References	150

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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