# Basis for Detecting Falsified Medicines and Dietary Supplements adulteration

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#### Agenda



- WHO Overview
- USP Quality medicines approach
  - Value of USP Public Standards for monitoring of counterfeit and substandard products
  - DS&HM USP Quality approach and adulteration
- Q & A



#### WHO Global Landscape



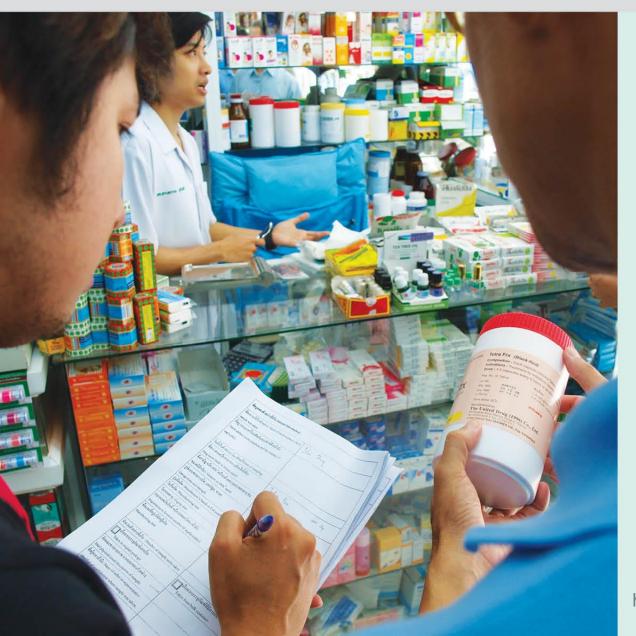
Up to two billion people around the world lack access to necessary medicines, vaccines, medical devices including in vitro diagnostics, and other health products, which creates a vacuum that is too often filled by substandard and falsified products



A modelling exercise developed by the University of Edinburgh estimates that 72 000 to 169 000 children may be dying each year from pneumonia due to substandard and falsified antibiotics.

An estimated 1 in
10 medical
products
circulating in lowand middleincome countries
is either
substandard or
falsified, according
to new research
from WHO

#### WHO definitions of substandard and falsified medicines

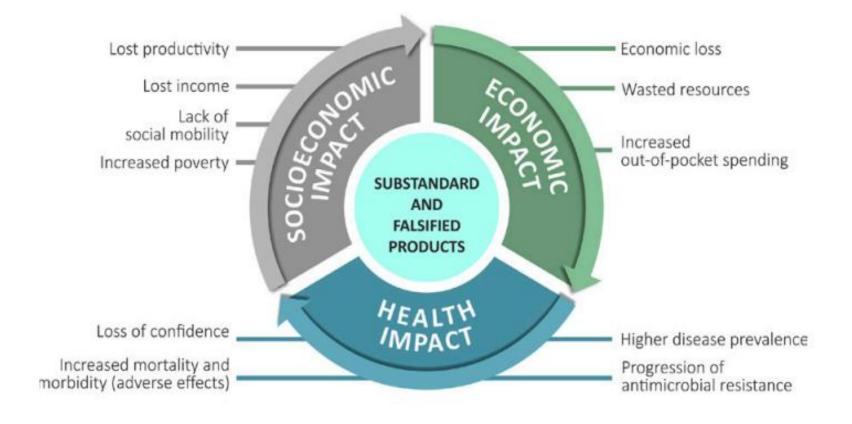


- ► **Substandard** Also called "out of specification", these are authorized medical products that fail to meet either their quality standards or their specifications, or both.
- ► Falsified medicines Medical products that deliberately/fraudulently misrepresent their identity, composition or source.
- Unregistered/Unlicensed Medical products that have not undergone evaluation and/or approval by the national and/ or regional regulatory authorities for the market in which they are marketed/distributed or used, subject to permitted conditions under national or regional regulation and legislation.

#### **S&F Medicines Impact**



 The negative impact of S&F medicines spans beyond health system inefficiency



<sup>\*</sup>Source: https://www.who.int/medicines/regulation/ssffc/publications/SE-Study\_EN\_web.pdf?ua=1

### **USP Quality Medicines approach**

Value of USP Public Standards for monitoring of counterfeit and substandard products

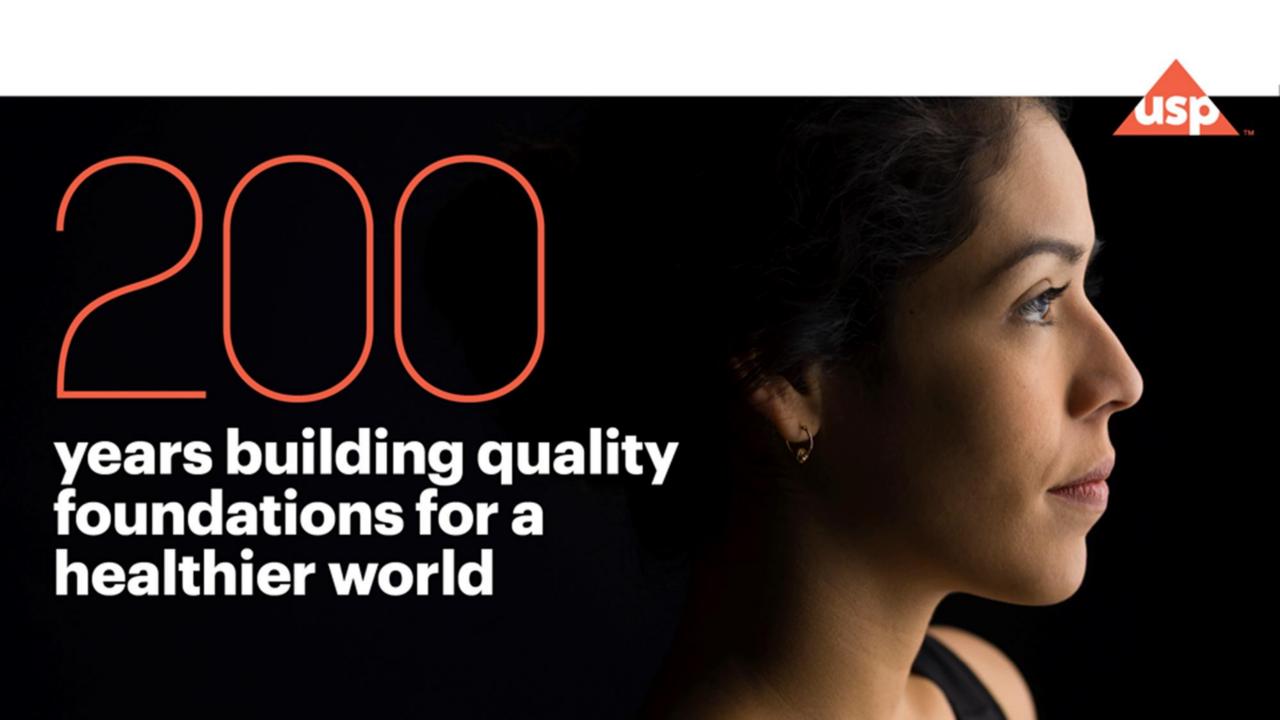




# Mission

To improve global health through public standards and related programs that help ensure the quality, safety and benefit of medicines and foods





#### **USP – Public Standards**

#### USP standards used in over 140 countries

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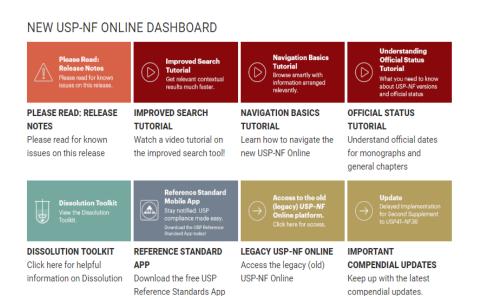




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# 

are available for prescription and OTC drugs, biologics, excipients, dietary supplements and foods

#### **USP Reference Standards**



Highly characterized specimens of



- Drug substances
- Excipients
- Impurities
- Degradation products
- Biologics

- Food ingredients
- Dietary supplements
- Compendial reagents
- Performance test tablets

#### The Value of Public Quality Standards

- Helps provide scientific basis for decisionmaking in regulatory review, manufacturing and enforcement
- Contribute to research and development, fostering innovation
- Helps ensure a consistent approach to quality for innovator and generic products
- Assess the quality of drug products in commerce
- Aids in monitoring for counterfeit and substandard products and quality of imported drug products



#### **USP Quality Institute**





- The USP Quality Institute sponsors muchneeded research to enable evidence-based policy decisions that can help increase the availability of quality medicines everywhere, building a foundation for a healthier world.
- Global health leaders are faced with a proliferation of falsified and substandard medicines that threaten public health.
- The Fellowship in Quality of Medical Products is the signature program of the USP Quality Institute.

#### **Quality Verification**



#### Testing with USP Reference Standards



ID Tests
Impurity Tests
Related Compounds
Limit Tests
Residual Solvents
Dissolution
Assay

#### Partnerships at the heart of quality





## Partners in industry

R&D companies and generic manufacturers

## Partners in government

With regulatory and health authorities

# Dietary Supplements & Herbal Medicines USP Quality approach and Adulteration



#### Dietary supplements global situation

- \$106.4B global sales in 2018 and expected to continue to grow to \$138B by 2023\*
- Consumers/patients expect quality & safety
- ▶ USA / Dietary Supplement Health & Education Act (DSHEA):
  - Quality means that the dietary supplement consistently meets the established specifications for identity, purity, strength, and composition, and limits on contaminants
  - Methods should be scientifically valid and fit for the purpose
- ▶ USP has >500 monographs for dietary supplements and >50 monographs for herbal medicine ingredients

#### **Complexity of Botanical Products**



Whole

Powdered plant material

Native/
Full spectrum
Extracts

Enriched Extracts

Isolated
Class of
compounds

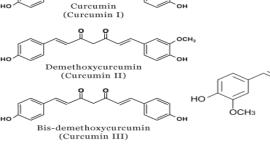
Purified
Single
Chemical











Chemical

Turmeric Root

Turmeric Powder

Turmeric
Dry Extract

Turmeric Curcuminoid Extract

Curcuminoids

Curcumin

**Degree of Complexity** 

Intact plant material-----Single chemical entity

Degree of Purification

Degree of Purification

#### **USP General Chapters**



#### Specific for Dietary Supplements:

- <2021> Microbial Enumeration Tests, Nutritional and Dietary Supplements
- Microbiological Procedures for Absence of Specified Microorganisms, Nutritional and Dietary Supplements
- <2023> Microbiological Attributes of Non-sterile Nutritional and Dietary Supplements
- <2091> Weight Variation of Dietary Supplements
- <2232> Elemental Contaminants in Dietary Supplements
- <2250> Detection of Irradiated Dietary supplements
- <2251> Screening Methods for Undeclared Drugs and Drug analogs
- <2750> Manufacturing Practices for Dietary Supplements

#### **USP General Chapters**



#### Non-specific for Dietary Supplements:

- <203> HPTLC
- <467> Residual Solvents
- <561> Articles of Botanical Origin
- <563> Identification of Articles of Botanical Origin
- <621> Chromatography

#### USP public standards for dietary supplements

USP

- Monographs + chapters + reference standards = comprehensive set of scientifically validated methods, supporting RS, and specifications to assess quality
  - Identity
  - Purity/Strength/Content
  - Limits for Contaminants
  - Performance
  - Specific Tests





#### Common tests by monograph type



DS Type Test	Vitamin	Minerals	Non Botanicals	Botanicals
Identity	IR, HPLC RT, UV, Chemical	Chemical	IR, HPLC RT, UV, Chemical	Microscopy, TLC, HPLC, GC
Purity/ Contaminants	Chromatographic purity, Limit Tests, Microbial, Heavy Metals	Chemical Limit tests, Limit of foreign metals by AA, ICP	Chrom. purity, Limit Tests, Microbial, Heavy Metals, PCBs-Dioxins	Toxins, Aflatoxins, Heavy Metals, Pesticides, Foreign Matter, Residue On Ignition, Microbial, Negative Markers
Performance	Packaging, Labeling, Uniformity. Dissolution, Disintegration	Packaging, Labeling, Uniformity, Dissolution, Disintegration	Packaging, Labeling, Uniformity, Dissolution, Disintegration	Packaging, Labeling, Extractable Matter, Uniformity, Dissolution, Disintegration
Strength/ Composition	Spectroscopy, HPLC, Microbial	AA, ICP, Titration	Spectroscopy, HPLC, Titration	HPLC, GC

#### Monograph content



- Identification Tests
  - Orthogonality
  - -Spectroscopy: IR, NMR, UV, etc
  - -Chromatographic: HPLC, TLC, GC, CE
  - Chromatographic fingerprints for complex ingredients
  - -Salts and counter ion tests
    - Identification Tests—General <191>

#### **DNA Methods for Botanical Identification**



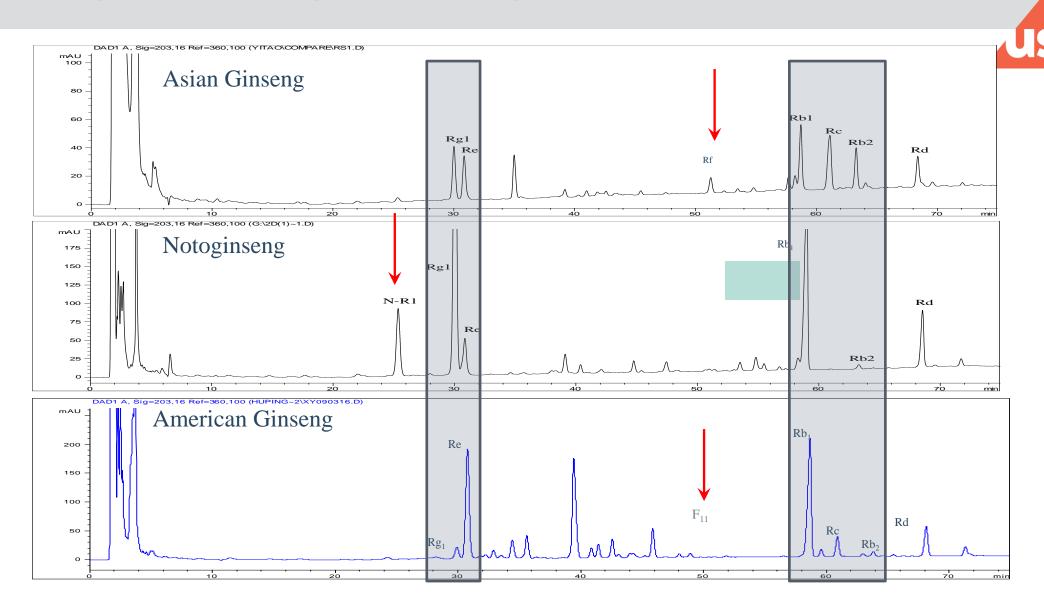


American Ginseng (A)

Asian Ginseng (B)

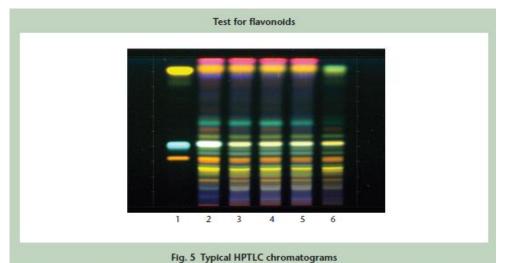
Tienchi Ginseng (C)

#### Chromatographic fingerprinting: unique species identifiers

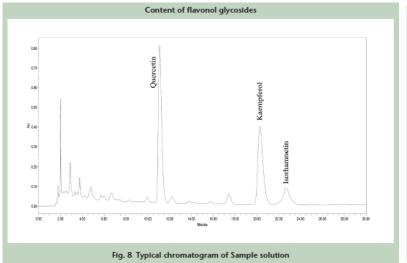


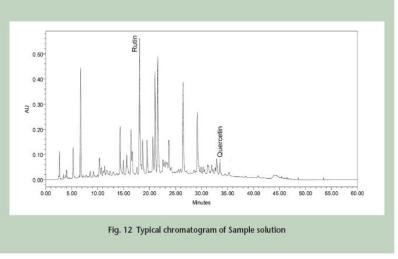
#### Ginkgo biloba





#### Track assignment: 1) USP Rutin RS 0.6 mg/mL, USP Chlorogenic RS 0.2 mg/mL, and USP Quercetin RS (with increasing R<sub>v</sub>); 2) glinkgo leaves (commercial sample); 3) glinkgo leaves (wild crafted); 4) glinkgo leaves, powder (commercial sample A); 5) glinkgo leaves, powder (commercial sample B); 6) glinkgo leaves, tincture (commercial sample)





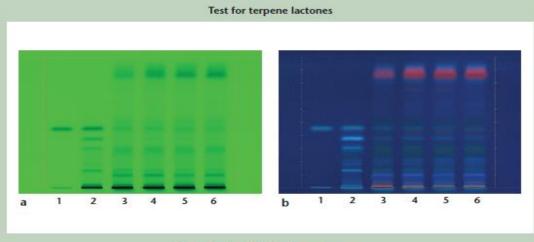
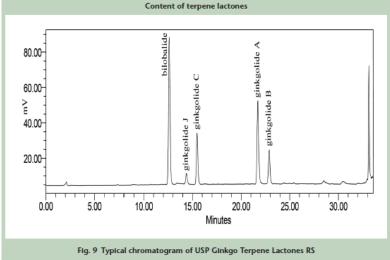


Fig. 6 Typical HPTLC chromatograms

Track assignment: 1) bilobalide (commercial sample), 1 mg/mL; 2) USP Ginkgo Terpene Lactones RS, 10 mg/mL;
3) ginkgo leaves (commercial sample); 4) ginkgo leaves (wild crafted); 5) ginkgo leaves, powder (commercial sample A); 6) ginkgo leaves, powder (commercial sample B)



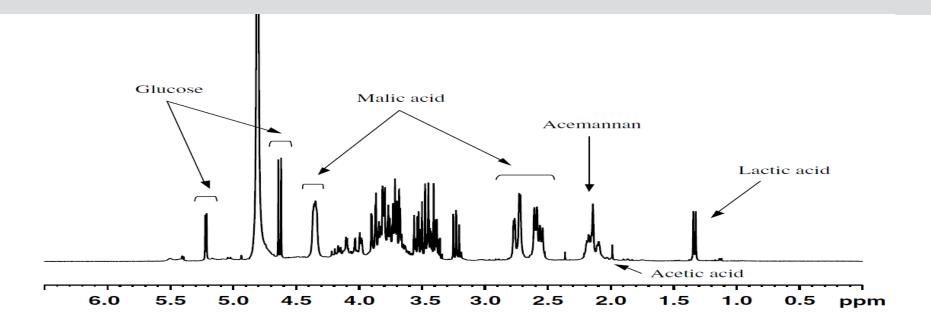
#### NMR: Identity and quantitation in one analysis

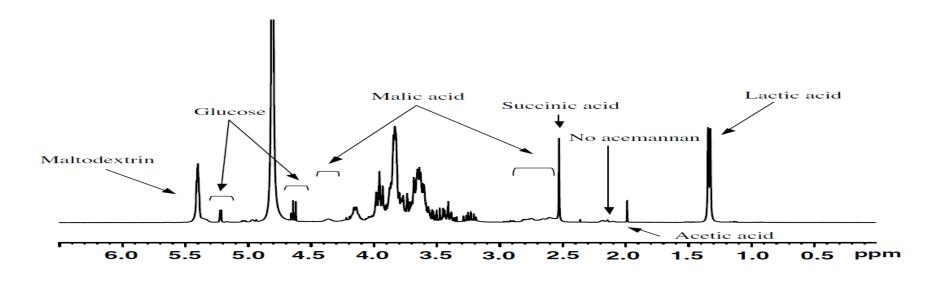


- Potential for identity, purity and content all in one test!
  - -Spectral fingerprints allow use as identification test
    - Chemometric approaches are needed for compendial application
  - Potential for quantitative analysis and impurity analysis at the same time

#### NMR Fingerprint: Aloe juice/gel example







#### (563) IDENTIFICATION OF ARTICLES OF BOTANICAL ORIGIN



#### DNA-BASED METHODS FOR AUTHENTICATION OF ARTICLES OF BOTANICAL ORIGIN

Because morphological identification often is not possible when the original plant material consists of dried, cut and shifted, or processed plant parts or when the material consists only of a whole, single plant part containing no taxonomic characters, additional identification methods, such as DNA-based identification, often are required for these sample types. DNA-based methods have been shown to be efficient in distinguishing genuine plant materials from adulterants in complex botanical matrixes and can complement traditional botanical identification methods that rely on morphological features or chemistry. In addition, DNA-based methods often are more reliable than traditional methods, especially when applied to single-organ specimens that lack diagnostic taxonomic characters, to powdered materials in which the distinguishing characteristics are no longer visible, or when it is difficult to distinguish among closely related or morphologically similar species.

#### **DNA Barcoding**

DNA barcoding is a particular type of DNA sequence-based identification method that uses short sequences of specific nuclear or plastid DNA loci for identification of plant species. The assays rely on comparison of nucleotide sequences from a specific stretch of DNA (DNA sequences or DNA barcode) to perform DNA sequence-based identification. Further, DNA-based methods, such as next-generation sequencing (NGS) technologies, are able to identify multiple species in a mixture, including expected and unexpected species.

#### **Botanical Identification Using DNA (Sanger) Sequencing**

The process for botanical identification using DNA (Sanger) sequencing includes marker selection, DNA extraction, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) primers and amplification, DNA sequencing, and comparison with reference materials, as described in the following sections. See *Nucleic Acid-Based Techniques*—Extraction, Detection, and Sequencing (1126), Nucleic Acid-Based Techniques—Amplification (1127), and Nucleic Acid-Based Techniques—Genotyping (1129) for additional information.



#### Considerations for DNA-based identification

US

- DNA-based methods are useful for botanical ingredient ID
  - High degree of specificity and sensitivity
  - Can distinguish closely related or morphologically similar species
- ▶ DNA-based methods are not suitable as the sole basis for ID
  - May not be suitable for botanical extracts, unless validated
  - False negative results from processed ingredients or due to interferences from the matrix
  - False positive results from foreign organic matter naturally occurring in the plant material at low but allowable levels (NMT 2%)
  - May be fooled by deliberate addition of small amounts of raw material
- Suitable as an orthogonal test which measures a unique attribute



#### **USP General Chapter <2251>**



The chapter currently addresses only one segment of adulteration:

#### Sexual enhancement:

Also referred to as the Erectile Dysfunction category, this encompasses a functionally coherent group of adulterants, including several approved drugs (e.g. sildenafil), their numerous approved and unapproved analogues, synthetic intermediates, and derivatives. Their functionality is manifested by selective inhibition of phosphodiesterase type 5 enzyme (PDE5).

#### Weight loss:

This category comprises a functionally and chemically diverse compounds that include stimulants, laxatives, diuretics, anorexiants, and psychoactive drugs. Although stimulants constitute an important segment of weight loss adulterants, the oral anorexiant sibutramine dominates this category, frequently in combination with phenolphthalein, a banned laxative.

#### Sports performance enhancement:

Professional and amateur athletes are targeted with designer anabolic steroids and stimulants, many of which are banned by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). These DS are customarily formulated in protein-and 31 fat-rich matrices, thereby further complicating detection.

#### **USP General Chapter <2251>**



- Appendix A of the chapter details six general screening methods:
  - LC-UV
  - LC-MSn
  - NMR
  - HPTLC visual, UV densitometry, MS
  - API-MS (DART)
  - Bioassay
- Two informational tables: 64 known adulterants, chromatographic data for 34 compounds, mass-spectral data with fragmentation, chemical structures.
- UV spectra acquired under experimental conditions specified in the chapter.

#### **Emerging Technologies**







- NMR
- Chemometrics
- Digital standards and Databases
- Non-targeted methods
- Metabolomics

#### Value of public standards in DS&HM



#### Industry

Dietary supplement and ingredient manufactures produce quality products



#### **Practitioner/Patient**

Uphold practitioner and patient confidence in the quality of their supplements

#### **Government**

Regulators ensure quality products reach consumers

#### **Minimizing Risk**





material is available.

#### USP-NF General Notices Section 5.80

that have been approved as suitable for use as comparison standards in USP or NF tests and assays. (See USP Reference Standards 11.)

Where *USP* or *NF* tests or assays call for the use of a USP Reference Standard, only those results obtained using the specified USP Reference Standard are conclusive. Where a procedure calls for the use of a compendial article rather than for a USP Reference Standard as a material standard of reference, a substance meeting all of the compendial monograph requirements for that article shall be used. If any new *USP* or *NF* standard requires the use of a new USP Reference Standard that is not yet available, that portion of the standard containing the requirement shall not be official until the specified USP reference

USP Reference Standards are authentic specimens

Where *USP* or *NF* tests or assays call for the use of a USP Reference Standard, only those results obtained using the specified USP Reference Standard are conclusive.

# Questions?



## Thank You

