SUMMARY MINUTES

of the

BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION

A meeting of the British Pharmacopoeia Commission was held at 151, Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SZ on Monday 5th March 2018.

Present: Professor K Taylor (*Chair*), Professor A G Davidson (*Vice-Chair*), Professor M Almond, Dr J Beaman, Dr A M Brady, Dr G Cook, Dr A Coulson, Dr A Gleadle (*lay member*), Dr M G Lee, Dr B Matthews, Professor J Miller, Professor M Simmonds and Dr R Torano.

In attendance: Mr J Pound (*Acting Secretary & Scientific Director*), Dr F J Swanson.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Lowe, Ms S Palser (*lay member*) and Dr P Varley.

Also present: Ms H Corns, Mr P Crowley, Mr L Elanganathan, Mr A Evans, Dr A Gardiner, Mr A Gibb, Mr T Gladwin, Ms S Gomersal, Dr G Kemp, Dr C Lenihan, Ms C Lockie-Williams, Mr S Maddocks, Mr H Makwana, Dr K Radi, Ms M L Wall, Mr M Whaley and Mr S Young.

194 **Introductory Remarks**

Welcome The Chair welcomed Ms Claire Lockie-Williams (BP-NIBSC Herbals Laboratory), who was attending her first meeting of the BP Commission, and Mr Toby Gladwin (new fast streamer from the Department of Health).

Award Members were pleased to note that Mr Robert Lowe had been made a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

Declaration of Interests; Confidentiality of Proceedings Members were reminded of the need to inform the Secretariat of any changes to their interests throughout the year and of the need to declare any specific interests at the start of relevant discussions during the meeting. The Chair reminded members of the confidential nature of the meeting and that the papers should not be disclosed.

Dr Matthews declared an interest in one or more agenda items and appropriate action was taken.

I MINUTES

195 The minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2017 were confirmed.

II MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

196 The following matters arising from the meeting held on 14th November 2017 were noted.

Minute 173 – Content Strategy Update The detailed update on the Content Strategy would be provided at a future meeting.

Minute 175 – Dispensing and Supply Statements An update would be provided at a future meeting.

Minute 179 – BP 2019: Text Review Dates The Policy List and Style Guide had been posted on the BPC Forum in advance of the first DRT review as agreed.

Minute 180 – Assay Procedures: Use of 20 Tablets (or Capsules) Reference to the preferred use of powdered tablets (or the mixed contents of 20 capsules) had been included in the Policy List as agreed.

III REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

GOVERNANCE

197 **British Pharmacopoeia – Future Strategy**

Mr Pound provided an overview of the future strategy of the British Pharmacopoeia operation and how it related to the wider role of the MHRA.

198 **BP Transformation** COM(18)1

A workshop was held after the meeting to allow members the opportunity to discuss the future shape of the British Pharmacopoeia and to help identify our customers and their needs.

The output from the workshop would be reported back to members at a future meeting.

199 **MHRA Strategy for Pharmacopoeial Quality Standards for Biological Medicines: Update** COM(18)2

A summary of the recent activities was provided for information. A more detailed report would be presented at the July meeting.

EAG BIO Workshop A significant part of the last meeting of the Expert Advisory Group on Biological and Biotechnological Products had been devoted to a workshop which had been carried out to allow members to provide input into the three new work programme areas: (i) Standards development; (ii) Engaging with users and building knowledge; (iii) International peers.

Stakeholder engagement BP and MHRA staff had engaged widely with a range of external stakeholders to provide updates and visibility of the work and explore potential areas of collaboration.

Performance and class-based standards; BP Working Party An informal MHRA workshop had been held in February with external stakeholders with the aim of gaining insight into industry views on the concept of performance and class-based standards. The outcomes from this workshop would be used as a basis for exploring the feasibility of developing such standards and of identifying suitable experts to assist with the work.

OPERATIONAL

200 **BP Commission: Key Activities and Responsibilities** COM(18)3

The Secretariat had provided a summary of the key activities and responsibilities for Commission members during a typical year. This included a reminder of the statutory duties of a member as detailed in the Human Medicines Regulations 2012, which mainly

related to the publication of the BP, BP (Vet) and British Approved Names publications, and of the additional duties required to enable these to be carried out.

201 **BPC Sponsors** COM(18)4

Introduction Following the BP Business Review in 2016 a number of key strategic areas for development of the BP had been identified (including transformation, content and international) and each area had an appointed lead representative from the Secretariat. In order to encourage support from and increase understanding by the Commission in these areas, it had been proposed that sponsors should be assigned to some of these newer areas of work. A process and framework for this initiative had been developed by the Secretariat and had been agreed with the Chair.

202 **Expert Advisory Groups: Appointments Process** COM(18)5

The Secretariat had provided a comprehensive overview of the current process to appoint EAG members.

Procedure The Secretariat followed an MHRA approved Standard Operating Procedure for the appointment of new EAG/Panel/Working Party members and the various steps involved had been highlighted in the paper. The Chair confirmed that the procedure was in line with that used for other MHRA Committees.

Membership Criteria A set of general criteria relating to the appointment of new members and re-appointment of existing members had previously been developed.

Identification and Suitability of Members It was becoming increasingly difficult to identify candidate members who had the appropriate expertise and were able to devote the time necessary to support the work of the EAGs.

Members were asked to alert the Secretariat to individuals that might be suitable and to suggest additional ways to identify potential candidate EAG members.

Review The current term of office for all EAG/Panel/Working Party members expired on 31st December 2018. The Secretariat would be undertaking a comprehensive review over the next few months and would be working closely with relevant Chairs and Vice-Chairs throughout the process.

203 **Alkylsulfonate Esters: Production Statements in BP Monographs** COM(18)6

Background It had been agreed at the March 2017 meeting that a production statement should be developed for inclusion in BP monographs for formulated preparations containing mesilate salts. This had arisen through discussions at EAG MC1: Medicinal Chemicals.

The Secretariat had worked with colleagues from the Licensing Division and a statement had been agreed at the most recent EAG MC1 meeting.

Discussion Members were invited to discuss the draft statement, which had been agreed by EAG MC1. It was agreed that the final wording should be discussed with EAG MC1 and Licensing before a final recommendation was made. It was intended to include the statement in relevant monographs in the BP 2020, if possible.

204 **British Pharmacopoeia Laboratory** COM(18)7

British Pharmacopoeia Laboratory Reports The list of reports concerning new and revised monographs that had been prepared by the Laboratory since the November 2017 meeting was provided for information.

British Pharmacopoeia Chemical Reference Substances Tables providing information on BPCRS up to the end of January 2018 were provided for information.

IV FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

205 **British Pharmacopoeia 2019 Publications** COM(18)8

BP 2019 The Secretariat was currently preparing text for inclusion in the British Pharmacopoeia 2019 and the British Pharmacopoeia (Veterinary) 2019. All items included in the 9th Edition of the European Pharmacopoeia, together with those from Supplements 9.1 to 9.5, would be incorporated in either the BP 2019 or the BP (Vet) 2019, as appropriate. The 2019 publications would be published in August and would come into effect on 1st January 2019.

Electronic updates The text from Supplement 9.3 to the Ph Eur 9th Edition had been added to the online BP in December, in advance of its implementation on 1st January 2018. The text from Supplements 9.4 and 9.5 would be available in advance of their implementation dates on 1st April and 1st July 2018 respectively.

Text for approval The first batch of new and technically revised monographs for the BP 2019 publications had been reviewed by members during February. The final batch of text would be posted on the Document Review Tool (DRT) on **6th April**, with a deadline for comment of **22nd April**.

Preliminaries Members recommended that the British Pharmacopoeia 2019 and the British Pharmacopoeia (Veterinary) 2019 should be published and confirmed that the draft Prefaces to both publications were acceptable.

Technical/Editorial Changes In addition to the changes arising through EAG discussions, the titles of relevant new and revised monographs would reflect the decision taken at the last meeting to avoid splitting standard terms.

206 **Monographs for Omission from the BP 2019 and BP (Vet) 2019** COM(18)9

Since publication of the BP 2018 publications, a number of monographs had been identified as candidates for omission from the BP 2019 publications. The majority of the items related to products that were no longer licensed in the UK. In accordance with usual practice, the Secretariat had contacted countries in which the BP was used to ascertain if the products were still available / used before finalising the list. Members endorsed the recommendation to omit the monographs from the BP 2019 and the BP (Vet) 2019. In accordance with regulation 252 (2c) of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012, these monographs would continue to remain in force.

207 **Approved Synonyms** COM(18)10

New and revised monographs The proposed new Approved Synonyms relating to new and revised monographs included in the European Pharmacopoeia by means of Supplement 9.5 to the 9th Edition were approved. The items would be added to Appendix XXI B in the BP 2019 and BP (Vet) 2019 and would be incorporated within the online updates to the BP 2019 publications. For the remaining new monographs in Supplement 9.5, members recommended that the Ph Eur titles should be used.

Title changes The title of the monograph for Pimobendan had been changed to Pimobendan for Veterinary Use as the material was only licensed for veterinary use in Europe. The monograph would be transferred to the BP (Vet) by means of the 2019 publications, the BP title would be retained and an approved synonym created.
The titles of the monographs for Codeine and Folic Acid had been changed to Codeine Monohydrate and Folic Acid Hydrate respectively in Supplement 9.5. Members endorsed the recommendation that the changes in title should be reflected in the BP. The Definitions of the associated formulation monographs would also be updated accordingly.

British Approved Names As a consequence of additions to the Ph Eur, the following change would be made in a future BAN publication: Mometasone Furoate Monohydrate would be added as a new British Approved Name (Modified) to the entry for Mometasone.

208 **Intraocular Injections** COM(18)11

Background The Expert Advisory Group on Unlicensed Medicines had prepared text relating to Intraocular Injections, based on information received from the NHS Ophthalmic Pharmacists Group (OPG). At their most recent meeting EAG ULM had agreed text for inclusion in the General Monograph on Unlicensed Medicines and in Supplementary Chapter V F: Aseptic Preparation of Unlicensed Medicines. It had been agreed that the views of the BP Commission should be sought on a number of issues prior to finalisation of the texts which were intended for publication in the BP 2019.

It was recognised that licensed intraocular injections were also available. The current draft texts had been prepared to provide information on such products used specifically as unlicensed medicines. Should the scope of the existing monographs for Parenteral Preparations and Eye Preparations be expanded to cover intraocular preparations in the future, the BP text would be reviewed.

Supplementary Chapter Members agreed that the text was suitable for publication, subject to a number of minor changes.

General Monograph Members agreed that the text was suitable for publication, subject to a number of minor changes.

Osmolality vs Osmolarity The Commission endorsed the recommendation to include a test for Osmolality rather than Osmolarity since this was covered by Appendix V N and reflected the parameter measured in practice. Members also supported the proposal to draw the anomaly between osmolality [included in the Ph Eur] and osmolarity [referenced in ICH] to the attention of the EP Commission at a suitable opportunity.

209 **British Approved Names 2017: Supplement No.2** COM(18)12

Supplement No. 2 to British Approved Names 2017, containing 22 new names, had been prepared and a copy was provided for confirmation. The text had been agreed by the Expert Advisory Group on Nomenclature and had been sent to manufacturers for comment. All the entries were either recommended International Nonproprietary Names (rINN) which had UK product licences or were Ph Eur monograph titles which had previously been approved for inclusion in the list of BANs. Members were invited to examine the draft and to send any comments to the Secretariat by **19th March**.

Subject to any comments received, the Commission approved the content of the draft Supplement and recommended that it should be published.

V ANALYTICAL ISSUES

NONE.

VI EXPERT ADVISORY GROUPS / PANELS OF EXPERTS

210 **Expert Advisory Groups, Panels of Experts and Working Parties** COM(18)13

New Members Dr Anthony Booker and Professor Adrian Slater had accepted the invitations to join EAG HCM and Dr Andrea Ruggiero had accepted the invitation to join EAG MC2.

Retiring Members The following members had recently resigned either due to retirement or because they were no longer able to devote the time necessary to support the work of the EAGs: Dr Thea Sesardic (EAG BIO); Mr Mark Broughton (EAG MC1); Mr Lionel Randon (EAG PCY). Letters of thanks would be sent to the former members and the need for replacement members would be considered in due course.

Dr Lee wished to place on record his thanks, on behalf of the Commission, to Dr Sesardic who had provided enormous support to the BP throughout her time at NIBSC.

Expert Advisory Group ABS: Antibiotics Members endorsed the recommendation to appoint Mr Jasbinder Sumal (Senior Pharmaceutical Assessor) as the alternate Licensing representative to EAG ABS. Mr Sumal was the UK representative on Ph Eur Group 7 (Antibiotics).

Panel DNA: Identification Techniques Members endorsed the recommendation to appoint Dr Mark Carine (Principal Curator (Algae, Fungi and Plants Division), The Natural History Museum) to Panel DNA. Dr Carine would bring much needed expertise in taxonomy and plant systemics to the Panel and his appointment was supported by Professor Adrian Slater, Chair of the Panel.

211 **Expert Advisory Group PCY: Pharmacy** COM(18)14

The report of the EAG PCY meeting (12:09:17) was approved and the following point was raised.

Dissolution – Responses to the Consultation Workshop Following workshop discussions, a response to the public consultation would be prepared. Discussions would

continue at the next PCY meeting and proposals would be brought to the attention of the BP Commission at a future meeting.

212 **Expert Advisory Group MC3: Medicinal Chemicals** COM(18)15

The report of the EAG MC3 meeting (27:09:17) was approved. The meeting had been the last attended by Mr Fenton-May (former Chair) and tributes had been paid for his long and dedicated service over many years.

213 **Expert Advisory Group ULM: Unlicensed Medicines** COM(18)16

The report of the EAG ULM meeting (17:10:17) was approved and the following points were raised.

Intraocular Injections See discussion under minute 208.

Ferric Chloride Injection In view of the low strength of the formulation, members of EAG ULM had agreed that a validated assay procedure using ICP-OES [ICP-AES] (inductively-coupled plasma optical [atomic] emission spectrometry) should be included in the draft monograph. Although the technique had not previously been specified in any BP monograph, it had been included in a number of Ph Eur monographs as a means of determining the level of certain metals. Members endorsed the inclusion of the technique as an Assay procedure.

214 **Expert Advisory Group MC2: Medicinal Chemicals** COM(18)17

The report of the EAG MC2 meeting (24:10:17) was approved.

215 **Expert Advisory Group HCM: Herbal and Complementary Medicines** COM(18)18

The report of the EAG HCM meeting (23:11:17) was approved.

216 **Expert Advisory Group MC1: Medicinal Chemicals** COM(18)19

The report of the EAG MC1 meeting (5:12:17) was approved, subject to a minor editorial correction, and the following points were raised.

Phenytoin Preparations; Dissolution EAG MC1 had discussed the inclusion of a dissolution test in these monographs and had agreed that while inclusion of a monograph test was preferred, in these instances it would be very difficult to develop a suitable generic dissolution test and that the Production statement approach might be a better option. The views of the Expert Advisory Group on Pharmacy had been sought. EAG PCY had preferred the inclusion of a dissolution test within the monographs but had accepted the inclusion of a Production statement as an interim measure.

Amlodipine Preparations One of the preparations could be used in both human and veterinary medicine and the issue of different ICH/VICH impurity limits had been raised. The matter had been referred to the Panel of Experts on Veterinary Medicines for advice.

217 **Panel DNA: Identification Techniques** COM(18)20

The report of the Panel DNA meeting (16:01:17) was approved and the following points were raised. The meeting had been held at the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control and members had been given a tour of the BP-NIBSC Herbals Laboratory.

New Members The Panel had discussed the need for additional members and, in particular, the need for an experienced taxonomist (minute 210.4 refers).

ISO 9001 Implementation The Laboratory were working towards implementation of the various ISO 9001 modules.

Production of the ITS2 BPNARM The Panel had endorsed the development of a second BPNARM.

VII EUROPEAN PHARMACOPOEIA

218 **European Pharmacopoeia Update** COM(18)21

European Pharmacopoeia Commission

159th Session The draft report of the 159th Session of the EP Commission (November 2017) was available on the forum section of the BP website.

UK Experts Mr Young had recently been confirmed as an alternate member of the United Kingdom Delegation.

Questionnaires sent to the UK National Authority A list of the recent questionnaires relating to proposals to add items to or remove items from the Ph Eur work programme was presented for information.

VIII INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

219 **International Update** COM(18)22

Members were provided with an update on international activities.

United States Pharmacopeia (USP) A teleconference had been held between the BP and the USP to discuss current and future projects.

Plant ID Dr Howard had attended a meeting in Barcelona which was the start of a Marie Curie Initial Training Network which would focus on the molecular identification of plants.

Biologicals Following the BP/MHRA Consultation, meetings had been held with a wide range of industry stakeholders to provide an update on the publication of the MHRA's strategy for pharmacopoeial standards for biological medicines.

WHO A new Memorandum of Understanding had recently been signed allowing continuation of the close working and harmonisation activities between the BP and WHO. The BP continued to send representatives to the WHO meetings of the Expert Committee on Specifications for Pharmaceutical Preparations and the International Non-proprietary Names Committee.

Croatia The original Co-operation Agreement between the BP and HALMED (Croatian Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices), which allowed the reproduction of BP text relating to unlicensed medicines in the Croatian Pharmacopoeia, had expired. An updated agreement had recently been signed, which extended the arrangement until February 2021.

IX REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY AND SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

220 Brexit

An updated position on the agency response to Brexit had been included on the MHRA website in January (https://www.gov.uk/government/news/medicines-and-healthcare-products-regulatory-agency-statement-on-the-outcome-of-the-eu-referendum).

221 MHRA Issues

Accommodation The current move date was tentatively set to take place over three weekends beginning on 15th June.

Director of IE+S Mr Gerald Heddell, the current Director of the Inspection, Enforcement and Standards Division, which included the BP, would be retiring from the MHRA at the end of March.

Agency Board A paper had recently been presented to the Agency Board highlighting the work of the BP.

X ANY OTHER BUSINESS

222 BPC Appraisals

It was intended that appraisals would be carried out during April/May.

223 Observers at EAG Meetings

A process had been developed by the Secretariat to ensure that requests for observers to attend EAG meetings were dealt with in the same manner and that confidentiality issues were addressed.

224 Date of next meeting

Monday 9th July 2018 (*likely to be at Canary Wharf*).