

Introduction

Draft ver. 0.3 30 Mar 2011

This project was completed by the Sub-Committee I of the Western Pacific Regional Forum for the Harmonization of Herbal Medicines (FHH) in Japan in August 2007, which aimed to compare the nomenclature and testing method of each monograph of crude drug recorded in Chinese Pharmacopoeia (CP), Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP), Korean Pharmacopoeia (KP) and Vietnamese Pharmacopoeia (VP), to list reference information from CP, JP, KP and VP including Chemical Reference Standards (CRS) and Reference of Medicinal Plant Materials (RMPM), to provide other information relating to the crude drugs recorded in CP, JP, KP and VP such as analytically validated methods and general test methodology, and, therefore, to promote harmonization of crude drugs recorded in CP, JP, KP and VP.

Since this project was conducted in Japan, except for JP, of which Japanese version was used, the versions of the other three pharmacopoeias used are in English. The full name and version number of all these four pharmacopoeias are listed as follows:

CP: Pharmacopoeia of the People's Republic of China (2005 edition, English version);

JP: The Japanese Pharmacopoeia (15th edition, 2006, Japanese version);

KP: The Korean Pharmacopoeia (8th edition, 2003, English version);

VP: Vietnamese Pharmacopoeia (3rd edition, 2005, English version)

Apart from JP, Non-JP Crude Drug Standards (Non-JPS, the Japanese Herbal Medicine Codex, Japanese version) was also used as a reference for information presented in this document from Japan. Non-JPS is a notification of the director of Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics division, Pharmaceutical Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Health and Welfare in 1989, while JP is a ministerial notification.

Five expert working groups (EWGs) were set up for this project, which are EWG I for Nomenclature, EWG II for Testing Method in Monographs, EWG III for lists of CRS and RMPM, EWG IV for Analytically Validated Methods, and EWG V for Information on General Test. In total, 16 comparative tables are published in this document.

In addition, FHH Sub-Committee I will continue working for the update of this document. The work for the renewal of the comparison tables presented this document will commence after the publishing of JP 16th edition and the English version of CP 2010 edition.

Comparison tables can be downloaded via FHH website (<http://www.fhbm.net/>) or Japan National Institute of Health Sciences (NIHS) website (<http://www.nihs.go.jp/dpp/FHH/FHH.htm>).

