

# Updates on USP Standards for Probiotics

Seong-Jae (SJ) Yoo, Ph.D. Scientific Liaison, Dietary Supplements



#### **USP** Activities on Probiotics

- 2016 2017
  - Established the Probiotics Expert Panel
  - Proposed a general chapter, <64> PROBIOTIC TESTS
  - Proposed monographs (*B. coagulans* and its capsules) in PF 43(1)
  - Published 5 official monographs (4 Lactobacillus + 3 Bifidobacterium strains) in USP40-NF35
- **2015** 
  - Probiotic Roundtable
- Before 2015
  - 8 monographs in FCC
  - 2012 USP-IFT Workshop: A co-sponsored workshop on identity and characterization of a probiotic microorganism used in food ingredients: Importance to Safety and Efficacy



## **USP** Monographs for Probiotics

- Lactobacillus acidophilus LA-14 → Approved
- Lactobacillus acidophilus NCFM → Approved
- Lactobacillus paracasei Lpc-37 → Approved
- Lactobacillus rhamnosus HN001 → Approved
- Bifidobacterium animalis ssp. lactis → Approved
- Bacillus coagulans\* → Proposed
- Bacillus coagulans\* Capsules → Proposed
- General Chapter <64> Probiotics Tests → Proposed
- \* The title is at the species level to include multiple strains in one monograph.

  Strain-level titled monographs will be revised to the species level in near future.

#### U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention

#### **Observations**

- Industry needs science-based quality testing
  - Most manufacturers use ID test with limited specificity.
  - Very few ingredient manufacturers promote DNA-based ID test.
- Best Practices Guidelines for Probiotics (CRN+IPA)
  - Address strength, stability, and label claims
  - Does not address ID tests and contaminants
  - Does not address public standards of probiotics (USP monographs)
- Limited awareness of USP probiotic standards
  - Not familiar with USP standards
  - Most DS manufacturers (ingredients/dosage forms) are not familiar with DNAbased ID tests as a QC release test.
  - Need to address limits for micro-contaminants for probiotics
  - Need to promote public standards for probiotics



#### **Probiotics Expert Panel**

- Probiotic EP
  - Formed in April 2017
  - Review monographs and provide recommendation to NBDS-EC
- Dr. Mary Ellen Sanders Chair
- Dr. Chris Elkins FDA Government Liaison
- Expert Panel Members (14)
  - Subject-matter experts from major manufacturers (ingredients, dosage forms and testing laboratories)
  - Experts in FDA, NIH, and NIST







## Probiotics Expert Panel – Members

	Name	Member	Affiliation
1	Sanders, Mary Ellen	Chair	ISAPP
2	Elkins, Chris	GL	FDA
3	Davis, Cindy Dyann	GL	NIH
4	Jackson, Scott	Member	NIST
5	Keller, David	Member	Ganeden
6	Pane, Marco	Member	Probiotical Healthcare
7	Schoeni, Jean L.	Member	Covance
8	Stahl, Buffy	Member	DuPont
9	Tartera, Carmen	Member	FDA
10	Christina Skovgaard Vegge	Member	Chr Hansen
11	Burguiere, Pierre	Member	Lallemand
12	Brooks, James	Member	USP NBDS-EC
13	Bradley, Mike	Member	USP-NBDS-EC
14	Roe, Amy	Member	USP-NBDS-EC



### Probiotics Expert Panel – Major Tasks

- Monograph review and recommendation to NBDS-EC
  - Bacillus coagulans
  - Bacillus coagulans Capsules
  - General chapter: <64> Probiotic Tests
- Informational General Chapter of Probiotics proposed
  - Planned in 2018-2019
  - Testing methods, principles, requirements etc. focusing on ID, purity, strength, and limits for contaminants etc.
- Some EP members will speak at the IPA-Probiotic Workshop cosponsored by USP (Rockville, MD on 10/26/2017)
  - Tentative topics: regulatory compliance, standards, industry practices, advanced sciences etc.
- USP Probiotic Expert Panel meeting scheduled on 10/25/2017(Rockville, MD)



# <64> PROBIOTIC TESTS - Proposed

- Posted in PF 43(2) on March 1 May 31, 2017.
- Avoid duplicated procedures in monographs for Lactobacillus or Bifidobacterium (e. g. PCR, MRS enumeration, contaminants)
- Subject to EP review and recommendation
- Addresses probiotics used as dietary ingredients as well as dietary supplements such as dosage forms (tablets, capsules, etc.).
- The scope of the chapter includes definition, identification, enumeration, specific tests, contaminants and other requirements for dietary supplement probiotics.
- This chapter also provides tests for probiotic microorganisms as well as contaminant microorganisms which may be present in dietary supplement probiotics from raw materials to the finished forms.



### Upcoming USP Monographs for Probiotics

#### Under development

- Lactobacillus fermentum strains
- Bacillus coagulans with additional strains



# Stakeholder Perspectives on USP Probiotic Standards

USP Stakeholder Forum
Buffy Stahl – DuPont Nutrition and Health
7 June 2016



# Discussions