



U.S. Pharmacopeia  
The Standard of Quality<sup>SM</sup>

October 14, 2009

**Subject: Expiration Dating Policy Statement for USP Reference Standards**

***Effective: October 2009 until superseded***

Dear Valued USP Customer:

USP Reference Standards do not carry expiration dates in the traditional sense. Rather, they are granted Official Status under the authority of the United States Pharmacopeial Convention Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the USP Reference Standards Committee, which passes on the selection and suitability of each lot.

In order to determine the current status of a USP Reference Standard, please consult the daily online *USP Reference Standards Catalog* at [www.usp.org](http://www.usp.org).

Two columns appear in the catalog to identify the current official lots. One column identifies the official lot currently being shipped by USP. If the field is blank, then the current lot is not in distribution. In some cases, the previous lot may still be considered official. If this is the case, it is identified in the second column. Ordinarily, the previous lot maintains official status for one year after it has been depleted, unless, because of a change in monograph requirements or stability limitations, the previous lot is found to be no longer suitable for its intended use. Indication is given for the month and year through which previous lots may be used.

USP Reference Standards are not intended for administration to humans or animals as drugs or medical devices. They are intended for Test and Assay Use only.

Best regards,

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