

[REDACTED]
NSW Poisons Information Centre
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Therapeutic Goods Administration

Re: Increased online access to ingredient information

The NSW Poisons Information Centre supports option 1a of the proposal for increased access to ingredient information. We feel this option provides maximum information for consumers and health professionals regarding a product but still allows protection of some proprietary information.

Complete information about excipient ingredients is important for the assessment of risk in cases of possible poisoning. The NSW Poisons Centre would utilise the 24/7 access to such information via the TGA website to assist with risk assessment in the provision of our service after hours.

Many excipients can cause toxicity when an agent is ingested in large quantities or when used inappropriately, and can alter management of the poisoned patient. Examples of this include alcohols included as solvents. Methanol being significantly more toxic than ethanol and requiring a very different management. Isopropyl alcohol is considerably more likely to cause injury in the eye than other alcohols.

Hydrocarbon solvents also cause varying degrees of toxicity depending on the agent. Information on these non-active ingredients will assist us in making sure patients receive appropriate management in a timely manner.

Currently without this information we are required to spend time researching these ingredients and then make risk assessments on the limited information available. Patients are required to wait longer, and may be subject to investigations and longer monitoring than would be required if accurate information was available quickly.

The NSW Poisons Information Centre would be interested in collaborating to help communicate this information to consumers.

Regards

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