

Those interested in acquiring the printed versions of the “Guidelines for Safety Evaluation of Cosmetic Products” and the “Guidelines for Stability of Cosmetic Products”, should place an order to:

editora.comin@anvisa.gov.br

In addition, there are guides and leaflets available with information on sunscreen, chemical hair straightener, formaldehyde-based hair products, technical reports by CATEC and on issues of cosmetics, under the supervision of the GGCOS.

The authorization of cosmetics manufacturing, importation and distribution companies, as well as the grant of the Certificate of Observance of Good Manufacture Practices, are competencies of Anvisa’s General Office of Inspection and Control of Inputs, Drugs and Products (GGIMP).

The inspection and health control of market products are decentralized and undertaken by State and Municipal Health Surveillance agencies under Anvisa’s coordination.

Devised By

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Anvisa Cosmetics

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INTRODUCTION

The General Office of Cosmetics (GGCOS) of the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) is responsible for the regulation and registration of toiletries, cosmetics, and perfumes. Its structure is composed of a technical administrative body formed by pharmacists, biologists, chemists, and chemical engineers.

This office counts yet on a Technical Chamber of Cosmetics (CATEC) – instituted by Ordinance no. 485, dated July 7th, 2004 – whose purpose is to provide consultation and assessment, as well as to write technical reports about matters concerning toiletries, cosmetics and perfumes. The CATEC is formed by experts in dermatology, toxicology, microbiology and cosmetology, and by specific working groups, which aim at elaborating rules and technical scientific manuals.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- To elaborate and propose regulation concerning toiletries, cosmetics and perfumes, regarding product identification, quality, safety, purpose, efficacy, health risk, preservation, and stability, including cases of importation and exportation;
- To propose the concession of Registration, Revalidation / Notification and their alterations;
- To perform actions of coordination, control, supervision, and monitoring, in order to comply with regulatory rules pertaining to Health Surveillance of cosmetic products;

- To represent Anvisa in the Ad Hoc Cosmetics Group of the Health Products Committee of the Working Group no. 11- Health/Mercosur (Southern Common Market);
- To participate in national and international events of the cosmetics area;
- To spread knowledge by organizing lectures and events;
- To elaborate guides and leaflets with information and orientations for the general public concerning the correct use of cosmetic products;
- To collaborate with other Anvisa offices which act in inspection, laboratories, communication, advertisement, ombudsmanship, and investigation concerning cosmetics.

INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION

Brazil, as a member of Mercosur and the Americas Forum for Harmonization of Cosmetic Products Regulation, seeks the harmonization of technical regulations of cosmetic products. These regulations deal with aspects concerning the promotion and protection of the consumers' health, in order to guarantee the health quality of products according to international standards.

The General Office of Cosmetics, in partnership with the General Office of International Relations, coordinates the process of harmonization and incorporation of international instruments to the national legal system, as well as makes sure that the commitments made are fulfilled.

LEGISLATION

The legislation pertaining to toiletries, cosmetics and perfumes is available in Anvisa's website (Field of action – Cosmetics):

www.anvisa.gov.br

PUBLICATIONS

The General Office of Cosmetics has the following publications available in Anvisa's website:

<http://www.anvisa.gov.br/cosmeticos/guia/index.htm>

The “Guidelines for Safety Evaluation of Cosmetic Products” provides information on safety evaluation of toiletries, cosmetics, and perfumes. Its goal is to fill a void related to the lack of technical publications on the subject in Brazil. The application of these guidelines is expected to contribute for the improvement of the products' quality and, consequently, for a better performance of control actions.

The “Guidelines for Stability of Cosmetic Products”, elaborated by Anvisa's representatives, the productive sector, and Brazilian universities, is a new tool for manufacturers and cosmetics professionals, since it gives directions on how to assure products' efficacy and safety. The publication lists orientations for tests that assure the stability of goods, i.e. that assures the goods keep their physical and chemical characteristics until the expiration date.