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# PHARMACOPOEIA

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The word “Pharmacopoeia” is derived from Greek words ‘Pharmakon’ (a drug or a medicine) and ‘Poieo’ (to make). It is the collected list of drugs and medicinal substance with direction for making preparation from them.

Pharmacopoeia means, a book of standards applicable to drugs and their common dosage forms and pharmaceutical aids published in a country under the authority of its own Government.

Most of the advanced countries have their own Pharmacopoeias:

For E.g. British Pharmacopoeia (BP)  
British Pharmaceutical Codex (BPC)  
Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)  
United States Pharmacopoeia (USP)  
The Japanese Pharmacopoeia  
National Formulary

## HISTORY

The term Pharmacopoeia first appears as a distinct title in a work published in Basel, Switzerland in 1561 by Dr A. Foes, but does not appear to have into general use until the beginning of the 17th century.

The Pharmacopoeia of Londinesis i.e., of London (the precursor of British Pharmacopoeia) was first introduced in 1618 and appeared in various editions until 1851.

In 1820, the first United States Pharmacopoeia (USP) was released. In 1864, the first British Pharmacopoeia (BP) was published with the inclusion of monographs on Benzoic acid, Gallic acid, Tartaric acid, camphor, lactose, sucrose and seven alkaloids along with their salts.

## INDIAN PHARMACOPOEIA (I.P.)

The government of India published in 1946, the Indian Pharmacopoeial List (I.P.L.). This served as a supplement to the British Pharmacopoeia which at that time was official in India.

An Indian Pharmacopoeial Committee was constituted by the government of India in 1948. The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission has been established as under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in 1956.

The first edition of Indian Pharmacopoeia was published under the authority of the government of India in the year 1955 and this became official in our country, replacing the British Pharmacopoeia. The supplement of 1st edition was published in 1960 which contains large number of crude drugs and their preparation.

**List of publication of various edition of I.P.**

<b>Edition</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Addendum/Supplement</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
1st Edition	<b>1955</b>	Supplement 1960	Dr. B.N. Ghosh
2nd Edition	<b>1966</b>	Supplement 1975	Dr. B. Mukerji
3rd Edition	<b>1985</b>	Addendum 1989	Dr. Nitya Nand
		Addendum 1991	
4th Edition	<b>1996</b>	Addendum 2000	Dr. Nitya Nand
		Vet Supplement 2000	
		Addendum 2002	Mr. Prasanna Hota (until 30 oct, 2006) Mr. Naresh Dayal (from 31 oct, 2006)
		Addendum 2005	
5th Edition	<b>2007</b>	Addendum 2008	
6th Edition	<b>2010</b>	Addendum 2012	Mr. P.K. Pradhan
7th Edition	<b>2014</b>	Addendum 2015	
		Addendum 2016	
8th Edition	<b>2018</b>	Addendum 2019	

**BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA (B.P.)**

British Pharmacopoeia was published by health minister of United Kingdom. The first edition of B.P was published in 1864, which consist of two parts materiamedica and preparation of compounds.

- Australia and Canada are two of the country that has adopted the B.P. as their national standard.
- Second edition of BP was published in 1867.
- Third edition of BP was published in 1885.
- Fourth and fifth editions of BP were published in 1898 and 1914.
- During 1953, the eight edition of BP was published and edition titles of drug & preparation were changed in English instead of Latin and metric system.
- Due to the rapid development of BP. The BP committee published BP at every year interval.
- In BP 2007 monographs has been introduced for material specially used in preparation of Traditional Chinese medicines.
- BP 2008 contains approximately 3100 monographs for substance, preparations and articles used in practice.
- BP 2007-2009 were given in 6 volumes i.e., Volume I to Volume VI.
  - Volume I & II contains medicinal substances.

- Volume III contains formulated preparations, blood related products, immunological products, radiopharmaceutical preparations, surgical materials & homoeopathic preparations.
- Volume IV contains supplementary chapters, IR spectra etc.
- Volume V contains veterinary.
- Volume VI contains CD ROM version.
- Current edition of BP was published in 2019.

### **UNITED STATES PHARMACOPOEIA (U.S.P.)**

In 1817, Dr. Lyman Spalding of New York proposed a plan to the Medical Society of the country at New York for publishing a National Pharmacopoeia.

- The first edition of United States Pharmacopoeia was compiled, edited and published on 15th December, 1820 which was having 217 drugs in about 272 pages.
- Subsequent editions of USP appeared after the gap of ten years.
- In 1905, the ninth edition of USP was published.
  - However, it was given the title USP VIII, as to show that it was eighth revision.
  - USP consider 25°C as the standard temperature for specific gravity and solubility statements.
- In 1940 convention directed that the pharmacopoeia must be revised every 5 years.
- On July 5, 1974, unification of the USP and NF (National Formulary) was announced. Since then the subsequent editions consolidate USP and NF into a single volume.
  - All drug substances and drug products were covered in USP whereas NF is devoted exclusively to pharmaceutical ingredients.
- The 22nd edition of USP combined with 17th edition of NF was published in January 1990.
- The 42nd edition of USP combined 37th edition of NF was published in 2019.