GA Kiel 3rd September 2003

EU Herbal Regulatory Issues for Workshop discussion

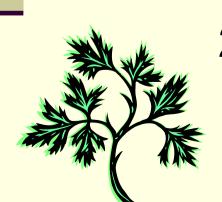
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EHPM

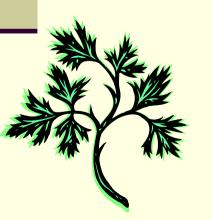
The European Federation of Health Product Manufacturers Associations

Founded in 1975
21 Members from 17 Countries



Each State has different:-

Traditions
Cultures
Existing laws
Market practices
Routes of sale



so that no common system will be perfect for anyone

Therefore:

- THMPD is generally supported but where are the solutions to:
- Changes in route of sale required if herbals become pharmaceuticals eg. Belgium, Italy, France
- Fossilisation of Herbal Medicines
- Herbs under Food Law



We seek workable compromises

EU Directive 2002/46/EC

"There is a wide range of nutrients and other ingredients that might be present in food supplements including, but not limited to, vitamins, minerals, amino acids, essential fatty acids, fibre and various plant and herbal extracts."



Herbs under Food Law some options:

- Herbs and extracts with a history of safe usage as foods. Making health promoting/maintenance claims in accordance with the Food Supplements Directive
- Herbs at sub-therapeutic levels, as in Belgium
- An agreed list, as in Italy
- National solutions for internal markets
- A negative, not a positive list



Consumers demand under Food Law:_

- Quality (HACCP)
- Traditional safety (as in THMPD)
- Informative labelling
- A wide freedom of choice
- No route of sale restrictions



Medicinal Options:-

- Defined medical purpose
- Dosage with clear medicinal effect
- Medicinal claim
- Traditionally used THMPD
- Well established Registration



We need:-

- Herbs as medicines
- Herbs as foods
- Herbs as food supplements
- Unrestricted routes of sale
- Quality
- Traditional safety
- Appropriate claims



THANK YOU

INOW LOOK FORWARD TO THE ANSWERS!



EHPM - European Federation of Associations of Health Product Manufacturers