



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

25 September 2019  
EMA/HMPC/638015/2018  
Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC)

## Addendum to Assessment report on *Hamamelis virginiana* L., folium et cortex aut ramunculus destillatum

Rapporteur(s)	Olga Palomino
Peer-reviewer	Ioanna Chinou

HMPC decision on review of monograph <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> L., folium et cortex aut ramunculus destillatum adopted on 12 November 2009	25 September 2019
Call for scientific data	From 01 March 2018 to 31 May 2018
Agreed by Working Party on European Union monographs and list (MLWP) and Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC)	September 2018 January 2019 July 2019
Adoption by Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC)	25 September 2019

### Review of new data on *Hamamelis virginiana* L., folium et cortex aut ramunculus destillatum

#### Periodic review (from 2009 to 2018)

Scientific data (e.g. non-clinical and clinical safety data, clinical efficacy data)

- ☐ Pharmacovigilance data (e.g. data from EudraVigilance, Vigibase, national databases)
- ☒ Scientific/Medical/Toxicological databases (PubMed, TOXLINE). Search period was set from January 2006 to January, 2019. The following key words were used *Hamamelis*\*, witch hazel. 44 references were found and 17 of them were included in the list of references as relevant.
- ☐ Other

Regulatory practice

**Official address** Domenico Scarlattilaan 6 • 1083 HS Amsterdam • The Netherlands

**Address for visits and deliveries** Refer to [www.ema.europa.eu/how-to-find-us](http://www.ema.europa.eu/how-to-find-us)

**Send us a question** Go to [www.ema.europa.eu/contact](http://www.ema.europa.eu/contact) **Telephone** +31 (0)88 781 6000

An agency of the European Union



- ☒ Old market overview in AR (i.e. products fulfilling 30/15 years on the market)
- ☒ New market overview (including pharmacovigilance actions taken in member states)
- ☐ Referral
- ☒ Ph.Eur. monograph
- ☐ Other

Consistency (e.g. scientific decisions taken by HMPC)

- ☐ Public statements or other decisions taken by HMPC
- ☐ Consistency with other monographs within the therapeutic area
- ☐ Other

#### Availability of new information (i.e. likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph)

<i>Scientific data</i>	Yes	No
New non-clinical safety data likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New clinical safety data likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New data introducing a possibility of a new list entry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New clinical data regarding the paediatric population or the use during pregnancy and lactation likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New clinical studies introducing a possibility for new WEU indication/preparation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other scientific data likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Regulatory practice</i>	Yes	No
New herbal substances/preparations with 30/15 years of TU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New herbal substances/preparations with 10 years of WEU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other regulatory practices likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Referrals likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New Ph. Eur. monograph likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Consistency</i>	Yes	No
New or revised public statements or other HMPC decisions likely to lead to a relevant change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Relevant inconsistencies with other monographs within the therapeutic area that require a change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other relevant inconsistencies that require a change of the monograph	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Summary and conclusions on the review

During the review 44 new references not yet available during the first/previous assessment were identified.

16 references were provided by Interested Parties during the Call for data.

Among them, 10 were considered to be relevant for the assessment; most of the references reviewed and summarised the already known properties of *Hamamelis*. Results of clinical studies describing

the efficacy in dermatitis disease, sensitive scalp, venous insufficiency (in combination) and use in children above 11 years of age have been found. Other references describe new chemical methods for qualitative and quantitative analysis of raw material, primary biological properties such as antioxidant ability and new research on other activities (i.e. antitumoral, antimicrobial effects).

An NTP study with Hamamelis water has been developed and all the results published up to the moment about genetic toxicology yielded negative outcomes, so no toxic effects can be foreseen for Hamamelis folium under the conditions of use reflected in the monograph.

Another NTP study was published in 2013 on pyrogallol about its dermal toxicity. The conclusions of these 3 months to 2 years dermal studies showed that there was no evidence of carcinogenic activity of pyrogallol in male or female rats administered 5, 20 or 75mg/kg. There was equivocal evidence of carcinogenic activity in male mice and some evidence of carcinogenic activity in female mice.

Even the lowest tested dose is much higher than the recommended posology for the different Hamamelis preparatio and also the duration of use is much shorter (no more than two weeks).

No new relevant data have been found which could affect the existing monograph and no changes in the regulatory practice have been introduced which could justify a revision of *Hamamelis virginiana* L., cortex et folium monograph.

## References

a) References relevant for the assessment:

Cesarone MR, Belcaro G, Grossi MG, Pellegrini L, Ledda A, Vinciguerra G, *et al.* LINFAVENIX: improvement of signs and symptoms of chronic venous insufficiency and microangiopathy. *Minerva Cardioangiol* 2008, 56(5):55-61

Henneicke-von Zepelin HH, Williams R, Havemeister W, Wigger-Alberti W, Nolte KU. Clinical trial shows lasting function of a new moisturizing cream against vaginal dryness. *Wien Med Wochenschr* 2017, 167:189-195

NTP Hamamelis water (witch hazel) 10183-P (<https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/ts-10183-p>)

NTP technical report on the toxicology and carcinogenesis studies of pyrogallol (CAS NO. 87-66-1), February 20 13. Pyrogallol, NTP TR 574. NIH Publication No. 13-5916

Paulsen E, Chistensen LP, Andersen KE. Cosmetics and herbal remedies with Compositae plant extracts - are they tolerated by Compositae-allergic patients? *Contact Dermatitis* 2008, 58(1):15-23

Reuter J, Ute Wölfle, Korting HC, Schempp C. Which plant for which skin disease? Part 2: Dermatophytes, chronic venous insufficiency, photoprotection, actinic keratoses, vitiligo, hair loss, cosmetic indications. *JDDG* 2010, 8:866–873

Trüeb RM. North American Virginian Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*): Based Scalp Care and Protection for Sensitive Scalp, Red Scalp, and Scalp Burn-Out. *Int J Trichology* 2014, 6(3):100-103

Welzel J, Malek FA, Zimmermann A, Wolff HH. Hamamelis-Salbe[\*] in der Pflege der trockenen Altershaut. *Z Phytother* 2009, 30(4):169-175

Willms RU, Walther C, Funk P. Lokale Verträglichkeit von Hamamelis-Salbe. *Z Phytother* 2006, 27(6):267-271

Wolff HH, Kieser M. Hamamelis in children with skin disorders and skin injuries: results of an observational study. *Eur J Pediatr* 2007, 166(9):943-948

b) References that justify the need for the revision of the monograph:

None

**Rapporteur's proposal on revision**

- ☐ Revision needed, i.e. new data/findings of relevance for the content of the monograph
- ☒ No revision needed, i.e. no new data/findings of relevance for the content of the monograph

**HMPC decision on revision**

- ☐ Revision needed, i.e. new data/findings of relevance for the content of the monograph
- ☒ No revision needed, i.e. no new data/findings of relevance for the content of the monograph

HMPC agreed with Rapporteurs position that no monograph and list entry revision is needed because no new data of relevance were detected that would change the content of the monograph and list entry.

The HMPC decided by majority not to revise the monograph, list entry, assessment report and list of references on *Hamamelis virginiana* L., folium et cortex aut ramunculus destillatum.