EHPM CONFERENCE

Quality and Safety in Food Supplements: from Farm to Fork

20 April 2023
Brussels
EHPM welcomes you to its Conference on Quality and Safety in Food Supplements: from Farm to Fork.

Quality and safety are closely interlinked and are the main aspects that a food business operator must take into account when developing, producing, and marketing a product. Quality standards should be there from the very beginning and should be constantly present at any stage of the production process, from the selection of the raw materials to the post-market stage: “from Farm to Fork”, which is the name of the European strategy aiming to make food systems fair, healthy and sustainable.

The Conference features guest speakers from the European Commission’s DG SANTE and experts from the industry. EHPM will officially launch the 3rd edition of its Quality Guide.

You will have the chance to hear insightful interventions from our speakers, but also to discuss various ongoing topics regarding the food supplements sector.

We hope that you will enjoy this conference and we look forward to engaging in a debate with you!
AGENDA

MORNING SESSION

9:30 – 10:00 Registration and welcome coffee

10:00 – 10:05 Welcome by Livia Menichetti, EHPM Director General

10:05 – 10:15 “Figures and trends of the European food supplements market” by Thomas Lochot, Client & Pharmacy Consulting Services Lead, IQVIA

10:15 – 10:30 “EHPM activities and commitments” by Livia Menichetti, EHPM Director General

10:30 – 11:00 “State of play of the food supplements dossiers: the European perspective” by Stephanie Bodenbach, Team Leader, DG SANTE A.1 of the European Commission

11:00 – 11:45 “Launch of the 3rd edition of the EHPM Quality Guide” by Jonathan Griffith (IHTA), Martin Last (HFMA) & Penelope Viner (HFMA), EHPM Working Groups Chairs and Vice-Chair

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 12:15 “An overview of food supplement control in the Republic of Ireland”: Video message by Faye Clarke, Technical Executive, Environmental Health (Supplements), Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

12:15 – 12:45 “Quality guides: a practical approach to safety, compliance and quality” by Fréderique Henderickx, Business Unit Director, Normec Foodcare

12:45 – 13:15 “The EHPM approach on the post-marketing vigilance of food supplements” by Antonino Santoro (Integratori & Salute), EHPM Chair

13:15 – 14:30 : Networking lunch
AGENDA

AFTERNOON SESSION

14:30 – 15:00 “The Novel Food Regulation: the European perspective and major developments” by Rafael Pérez Berbejal, Team Leader, and Stella D’Amore, Policy Officer, DG SANTE E.2 of the European Commission

15:00 – 15:30 “EHPM Novel Foods Task Force: ongoing work and next steps” by Magdalini Selanikli (SESDI), EHPM Task Force Chair

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 16:45 Round Table: “From policy making to product making”

Moderator: Claire Guignier, Public Affairs and Communications Manager (SYNADIET)

Panellists:
- Rafael Pérez Berbejal and Stella D’Amore, DG SANTE E.2 of the European Commission
- Antonino Santoro, EHPM
- Magdalini Selanikli, SESDI
- Nicolas Cappelaere, Laboratoires INELDEA

16:45 – 17:15 • Q & A
• Closing Remarks by Livia Menichetti, EHPM Director General
MEET THE SPEAKERS

In the order of presentation:

Livia Menichetti
As EHPM Director General, Livia Menichetti is responsible for the planning, development and implementation of the public affairs and advocacy strategy of the EHPM. She manages the relations with European Institutions in order to secure EHPM’s policy positions and priorities with key EU-level decision makers. Livia also manages the relations with the European Food Safety Authority and participates to events and meetings. She supervises the EHPM external communications and represents EHPM within European and international meetings and events. She is responsible for the daily management of the EHPM Secretariat in Brussels, including general administration and finances. She coordinates the EHPM Working Groups and Task Forces, Members’ Meeting, General Assembly and other events. Thanks to her extensive experience in EU public and regulatory affairs, she provides assistance to EHPM Member Associations and Companies. Livia holds a Master’s in International Politics and Diplomacy at the University of Padua and a Master’s in European Studies co-organised by the University ULB in Brussels and the University of Padua.

Thomas Lochot
Thomas Lochot is Client & Pharmacy Consulting Services Lead at IQVIA Belux. IQVIA is a world leader in using data, technology, advanced analytics and human expertise to help customers drive healthcare and human health forward. Thomas holds a Master’s in International Business and has worked in different consumer health companies in various marketing roles before joining IQVIA in 2020. Thomas’ focus today, together with his team, is to deliver the relevant data to pharmaceutical companies and help them better understand their businesses through market insights.

Stephanie Bodenbach
Stephanie Bodenbach is the team leader for the food supplements dossiers, as well as for fortified foods, foods for specific groups and nutrition and health claims, within the European Commission’s DG SANTE Unit A.1 “Anti-Microbial Resistance, Human Nutrition”. Among other topics, this unit addresses ongoing dossiers relevant to the food supplements sector, such as the setting of maximum levels for vitamins and minerals.

Jonathan Griffith
Jonathan Griffith is the Managing Director and Quality Assurance Manager of the Natural Medicine Company Ltd, a licensed pharmaceutical wholesaler of health products in Ireland. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Mental & Moral Science from Trinity College, Dublin. In 1986, he was a founding member of the Irish Health Product Manufacturers Association (now Irish Health Trade Association - IHTA) and acted as its General Secretary between 1986 and 1998. He was one of the Irish delegates to the European Scientific Co-Operative for Phytotherapy (ESCOP) between 1989 and 2006 and is an honorary member of the Irish Society of Homoeopaths. In addition to his specific expertise in the national and international regulatory affairs regarding the wholesaling of food, cosmetic and medicinal products in the EU, Jonathan has worked directly with many leading companies in the health product sector. He has been a member of the EHPM Board for over 20 years and chairs the EHPM Botanicals Working Group.
Martin Last

Martin Last is the new Director of the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association (HFMA). HFMA is the voice of the UK’s natural health industry since 1965, representing around 150 manufacturers and suppliers of natural health products. HFMA supports the interests of its members with regulators; promotes industry best practice for product quality and safety; and provides responsible information for consumers. Martin has been closely associated with the HFMA for over 25 years, as a long-standing member company and as a committed member of the HFMA Council. He has served as HFMA Chair and Vice-Chair, and he is an active member of the Association’s Technical, Political Engagement and PR Committees. Martin also represents HFMA within EHPM and is currently Vice-Chair of the Board. He chairs the EHPM Probiotics and Regulatory & Quality Working Groups.

Penelope Viner

After a career in industry as General Manager of a company making licensed natural medicines, food supplements and cosmetics, Penny Viner spent 7 years as Director of the Health Food Manufacturers’ Association (HFMA) and is now its President. Penny also chairs the UK Herbal Forum and is Secretary of the British Association of Homoeopathic Manufacturers. Previously, she was a Director of the UK branch of the European Food Law Association. She was a member of the British Pharmacopoeia Commission Expert Advisory Group on Herbal and Complementary Medicines and a member of the Ministerial Herbal Medicines and Practitioners Working Group. She is also an industry representative on the MHRA's Medicines Industry Liaison Group. Penny is Vice-Chair of the EHPM Botanicals and Regulatory & Quality Working Groups. She is also an independent consultant on food and medicines regulation.

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) was established under the Food Safety Authority of Ireland Act in 1998. The principal function of the FSAI is to protect consumers and raise compliance through partnership, science and food law enforcement. The FSAI is a statutory, independent and science-based body, dedicated to protecting public health and consumer interests in the area of food safety and hygiene. It is responsible for ensuring that food and food supplements produced, distributed or marketed in Ireland complies with food safety and hygiene standards, best practice codes and legal requirements. The FSAI is under the umbrella of the Irish Ministry for Health and has a 15-member Scientific Committee that assists and advises the FSAI Board. Therefore, decisions relating to food safety and hygiene take account of the latest and best scientific advice and information available.

Fréderique Henderickx

Fréderique Henderickx has been working for Normec Foodcare Quality Assurance Belgium since 2018, first as a Consultant and Regional Manager, and currently as Business Unit Director. Normec Foodcare is part of the Normec Group, active in the TICC industry (testing, inspection, certification and compliance). Over the years, Fréderique gained quality experience in mid-size food companies and in multinationals in Belgium, as well as in other countries where she held different positions in quality management. Food safety, compliance and people have always been her main drivers with continuous improvement as guiding principle.

Antonino Santoro

Antonino Santoro graduated in Chemistry from the University of Messina, in Italy. With a background in research and product development, Antonino served in management position for several years in a multinational pharmaceutical company and taught Regulatory Affairs at the University of Pavia, Italy. He is the author of several academic scientific publications and of some patents. Presently, he is an advisor in the pharmaceutical and nutraceutical field. Antonino has been a Board Member of FederSalus (now Integratori & Salute) since 2005 and has served as Vice-President for some years. He is a member of the EHPM Board since March 2013 and EHPM Chair since February 2021.
Rafael Pérez Berbejal

Rafael Pérez Berbejal joined the European Commission in 2002 and currently works in the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE). He is currently leading the novel food team in the Unit E.2 “Food Processing Technologies and Novel Foods”.

Stella d’Amore

Stella D’Amore is a seconded national expert from the Directorate-General for Competition, Consumer Affairs and Fraud Prevention in France. She joined the Unit E.2 of the DG SANTE in 2020 where she works in the area of novel foods and food contact materials.

Magdalini Selanikli

Magdalini Selanikli is a Regulatory Affairs & Quality Assurance expert in food supplements and cosmetics. She holds a Master’s Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from Leiden University and an LLM in International Legal Practice from the University of Law, London. Through her expertise in regulatory affairs, Magdalini is closely familiar with the impact of EU and national legislation for food supplement companies placing products on the market. In particular, she has considerable insight into the challenges faced by EU companies when trying to enter the national market in other Member States. Magdalini was elected to the EHPM Board in March 2013 and has served as Treasurer and Vice-Chair (current position). She is also a Board Member of EHPM’s Greek member SESDI.

Claire Guignier

Claire Guignier manages the public affairs and communications of the French Food Supplement Association, SYNADIET. Founded in 1950, SYNADIET is a founding member of EHPM and gathers close to 300 companies from all business lines (manufacturers, ingredient suppliers, marketers, consultants, distributors, etc.). The Association aims to federate and accompany its members in the exercise of their mission, which is to contribute to preserving and improving the health of consumers through the use of food supplements & other natural health products, as well as to engage with them in a responsible and transparent approach. With Master’s Degrees in EU law and EU policies, Claire previously worked in public affairs and communications for the food and health sectors, before joining SYNADIET and the food supplement sector in 2017.

Nicolas Cappelaere

Nicolas Cappelaere has 35 years’ experience in the food supplement and pharmaceutical industry. He is a qualified chemist engineer and also has a Master’s in Business Administration. He founded INELDEA Laboratories in 2003. Through his professional career, he has specific expertise in export and business management and strategy. He is a member of the Union SFNS (French Union for Specialized Nutrition). He has been a member of the Board of EHPM’s French Member Association SYNADIET since 2008 and has been recently elected as President. Nicolas is also a member of the EHPM Board since January 2016 and currently occupies the position of Vice-Chair.
The European Federation of Associations of Health Product Manufacturers (EHPM) was created in 1975 and, since then, EHPM has been the voice of the food supplement sector in Europe. With its 14 National Associations and 11 Member Companies, EHPM represents approximately 1,600 health product manufacturers and distributors, the majority of whom are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), in 17 European countries. EHPM is a member of FoodDrinkEurope and the International Alliance of Dietary /Food Supplement Associations (IADSA).