

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER SAFETY (SCCS)

Request for a scientific opinion: Request for a scientific opinion on the Acetaldehyde (CAS 75-07-0; EINECS 200-836-8)

Acetaldehyde is classified as carcinogen category 2 (CMR substance according to CLP classification) under the EU chemicals legislation. The substance is not regulated in an Annex to the Cosmetics Directive.

The Scientific Committee on Cosmetic Products and non-food products intended for consumers expressed its opinion (SCCNFP/0821/04) with the following conclusions:

- *Based on the information on the amount of fragrance compound present in the finished cosmetic products provided, the SCCNFP is of the opinion that acetaldehyde can be safely used as a fragrance/flavour ingredient at a maximum concentration of 0.0025% in the fragrance compound.*
- *SCCNFP does not recommend any further restrictions to the use of Acetaldehyde as a fragrance/flavour ingredient in cosmetic products.*

However, the limits would be in the order of trace levels and up to 20 ppm in the finished cosmetic products which might cause analytical problems. Moreover, the exposure from other alcoholic uses than fragrances was not taken into account.

Industry was requested to prepare an exposure and safety assessment taking into account all possible sources of acetaldehyde exposure from cosmetic products.

The submission for Acetaldehyde was submitted by COLIPA in July 2011. This submission contains the requested safety assessment of acetaldehyde in all cosmetic products at concentration of 100 ppm, regardless whether deliberately added or from incidental presence.

2. Terms of reference

The SCCS is requested to answer the following questions:

1. *Is Acetaldehyde safe when used up to 100 ppm as an ingredient in cosmetic products taking into account the new data provided?*
2. *And/or does the SCCS recommend any other concentration limit with regard to the use of Acetaldehyde as an ingredient in cosmetic products?*
3. *Does the SCCS have any further scientific concerns regarding the use of Acetaldehyde in mouth-washing products?*