

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER SAFETY (SCCS)

Request for a scientific opinion: Deoxyarbutin CAS n. 53936-56-4 with INCI name Tetrahydropyranyloxy Phenol

1. Background

Deoxyarbutin CAS n. 53936-56-4 (4-[(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)oxy]phenol) with INCI name

Tetrahydropyranyloxy Phenol is a skin lightening agent synthesised through removal of hydroxyl groups from the glucose side-chain of β -arbutin.

In the first opinion (SCCP/1158/08) on β -arbutin adopted on 15th April 2008 the SCCP raised concerns with other substances resulting in the release and/or formation of hydroquinone.

However, Hydroquinone (CAS 123-31-9) is listed in Annex II/1339 of the Cosmetic Regulation

No 1223/2009; therefore it is banned as cosmetic ingredient with the exception of entry 14 in Annex III. It is only permitted for professional use in artificial nail systems in a concentration in

the final product up to 0.02%. Since Hydroquinone could not be used as a skin whitener after introduction of a ban, other substances have been used for that purpose, including Arbutin.

A dossier on the related substance, deoxyarbutin, was submitted to the European Commission by Girindius AG in 2008.

2. Terms of reference

(1) Does the SCCS consider on the basis of the provided scientific data, the use of deoxyarbutin to be safe for consumers in cosmetic products in a concentration up to 3% in face creams?

(2) Does the SCCS have any further scientific concerns with regard to the use of deoxyarbutin in cosmetic products?

3. Deadline:

4. Supporting documents