

Draft Proposal for Comments and Inclusion in The Indian Pharmacopoeia

Coal Tar and Salicylic Acid Ointment

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This draft proposal contains general chapter text for inclusion in the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP). The content of this draft document is not final, and the text may be subject to revisions before publication in the IP. This draft does not necessarily represent the decisions or the stated policy of the IP or Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC).

Manufacturers, regulatory authorities, health authorities, researchers, and other stakeholders are invited to provide their feedback and comments on this draft proposal. Comments and samples received after the last date will not be considered by the IPC before finalizing the monograph.

Please send any comments you may have on this draft document to arnd-ipc@gov.in , with a copy to Dr. Gaurav Pratap Singh (email: gpsingh.ipc@gov.in) before the last date for comments.

Document History and Schedule for the Adoption Process

Description	Details
Document version	1.0
Monograph proposed for inclusion	Addendum to IP 2026
Tentative effective date of monograph	April, 2028
First draft published on IPC website for public comments	
Draft revision published on IPC website for public comments	
Further follow-up action as required.	

Coal Tar and Salicylic Acid Ointment

Coal Tar and Salicylic Acid Ointment is the mixture of coal tar and salicylic acid in a suitable emulsifying base. Coal Tar and Salicylic Acid Ointment contain coal tar and not less than 95.0 per cent and not more than 105.0 per cent of the stated amount of salicylic acid, $C_7H_6O_3$.

Identification

Disperse 2 g of the ointment in 20 ml of *water* with the aid of gentle heat, cool and filter. The filtrate gives reaction A characteristic of salicylates (2.3.1).

Tests

Other tests. Comply with the tests stated under Ointments.

Assay. To 2 g of the ointment, add 50 ml of *water*; warm until melted, cool and decant the supernatant liquid through moistened absorbent cotton. Repeat the operation with a further three 50 ml quantities of *water*. Dilute the combined aqueous extracts to 250.0 ml with *water*; filter and dilute 10.0 ml of the filtrate to 50.0 ml with *iron (III) nitrate solution*. Filter if necessary and measure the absorbance of the resulting solution at the maximum at 530 nm (2.4.7), using in the reference cell a solution prepared by diluting 10.0 ml of the filtered extract to 50.0 ml with *water*. Calculate the content of $C_7H_6O_3$ from the absorbance of the solution obtained by diluting a suitable volume of a 0.016 per cent w/v solution of *salicylic acid* with *iron (III) nitrate solution* to obtain a solution containing expected concentration similar to the test solution, and using *water* in the reference cell.

Storage: Store protected from light at a temperature not exceeding 30°.

Solubility. Slightly soluble in water; partly soluble in ethanol, in ether and in volatile oils