

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NOVEL FOODS AND PROCESSES**CBD Position Statement****Issue**

The Committee on Toxicity has recently published a position paper on the potential risk of CBD in food products¹ to summarise several discussions that have been held on the safety of cannabidiol (CBD) when used as a food product. These meetings largely reviewed the available safety data on CBD especially in relation to toxicological and genotoxicity data. Given that the ACNFP will be reviewing CBD dossiers from applicants in the near future, the secretariat considered it prudent to review this paper and hold an overall discussion on the paper and any issues it may raise.

Background

CBD is an extract from the *Cannabis sativa* plant, that can also be synthetically produced. Originally investigated for its potential therapeutic properties it is being increasingly used in non-medical products including consumer goods, foods and beverages including beer, spirits, wine, coffee, soda style drinks, edible oils, tinctures, drops, syrup, olive oils, chewables, gum drops and chocolate.

In January 2019, CBD selective extracts were confirmed as novel foods meaning that any novel CBD comestible product needs to be authorised under the novel food regulation before it can be marketed in the EU or the UK. Due to their increasing presence on the market and their status as a novel food, risk assessment advice has been increasingly sought from the Food Standards Agency on novel CBD comestible food products and beverages

In July 2020 In July 2020 the Committee on Toxicity produced a position statement to summarise the conclusion of these meetings for the benefit of industry and the consumer to understand. As the ACNFP will be reviewing relevant CBD based food products through the novel food authorisation process it was decided that the Committee should review the position statement to better understand the advice the FSA has received from the COT.

¹ <https://cot.food.gov.uk/sites/default/files/cbdpositionpaper290720.pdf>

Questions for the Committee:

1. The Committee is asked to review the position statement (link contained in footnote 1 on the previous page) and assess its applicability and use when completing Novel Food Applications on CBD based products.
2. The Committee is asked if they have any questions or concerns that they would like to pose to the COT or its Chair.
3. Members are asked if they have any other points to discuss or comments to make on the position statement.

Annexes

Annex A – Committee Paper for Discussion

Annex B – The COT Position Statement

Secretariat

Sept 2020