

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH PRODUCT (CHP)

1. What are the factors that determine the classification of a health product?

A product's classification depends on the product ingredients, claims made regarding the purpose or benefit of the product, the direction for use and dosage form. For a quick guide to help you derive the classification of a CHP, you can use the CHP Classification Tool (<http://www.hsa.gov.sg/chp-classification-tool>)

2. How can the CHP Classification Tool classify my product?

The CHP Classification Tool (<http://www.hsa.gov.sg/chp-classification-tool>) guides you through a series of questions on a product's active ingredients, dosage form and product claims, and based on your response and the backend algorithm, outputs the product's classification.

Before using the tool, you should have information on the active ingredients in the product, dosage form and intended purpose of the product, and select the correct corresponding options when using the CHP Classification Tool in order to self-classify accurately.

3. Why are some dosage forms of products not applicable for self-classification by the CHP Classification Tool?

The tool does not cover dosage forms such as powder, liquid, and gummy as they overlap with food presentations. In determining the classification of such products, the overall representation of the product such as the external appearance, claims, packaging and product's formulation are taken into consideration.

Should you wish to market your product as a food product, please contact the Singapore Food Agency at <http://www.sfa.gov.sg/contact-us> for regulatory requirements and advice.

Should you wish to market your product as a CHP, you may refer to the following web-links for regulatory information and advice:

- Chinese Proprietary Medicines: <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/chinese-proprietary-medicines>
- Traditional Medicines: <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/traditional-medicines/regulatory-overview-of-traditional-medicines>
- Homoeopathic Medicines: <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/homeopathic-medicines>
- MOB: <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/medicated-oils-and-balms>
- Health Supplements: <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/health-supplements/overview>

4. What is the average turnaround time for an outcome from a product classification enquiry?

For product classification enquiries submitted to HSA, the turnaround time depends on the complexity of the product formula, enquiry and the quality of information submitted. On the average, it takes between 20-30 working days. This turnaround time will also depend on the time taken by the company to respond to our requests for clarification or additional information.