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Brazil National Health Surveillance Agency

Technical Opinion No. 4, February 22, 2002

SUBJECT: Ban on the use of Finasteride in cosmetic products

In view of meetings previously held with the Technical Advisory Committee in the cosmetics industry (CTAC) and the need to reassess the use of finasteride in cosmetic preparations and preparation of a technical opinion, the Technical Cosmetics Chamber (CATEC) considered the matter on the agenda and presents its considerations below:

Considering that finasteride is classified as a medication;

Considering that finasteride is an antiandrogen and inhibits the 5 α reductase enzyme-type II;

Considering that the use of finasteride in women is not recommended due to the fact that it is a drug with a probable teratogenic effect;

Considering that finasteride, when applied topically, has systemic absorption, thus leading to the same side effects when used orally;

CATEC recommends:

Prohibit the use of finasteride in cosmetic products.

The General Management of Cosmetics adopts this opinion as a technical-scientific reference.