
Safety Assessment of Polysorbates as Used in Cosmetics

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All interested persons are provided 60 days from the above date to comment on this safety assessment and to identify additional published data that should be included or provide unpublished data which can be made public and included. Information may be submitted without identifying the source or the trade name of the cosmetic product containing the ingredient. All unpublished data submitted to CIR will be discussed in open meetings, will be available at the CIR office for review by any interested party and may be cited in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Please submit data, comments, or requests to the CIR Director, Dr. Lillian J. Gill.

The 2015 Cosmetic Ingredient Review Expert Panel members are: Chair, Wilma F. Bergfeld, M.D., F.A.C.P.; Donald V. Belsito, M.D.; Ronald A. Hill, Ph.D.; Curtis D. Klaassen, Ph.D.; Daniel C. Liebler, Ph.D.; James G. Marks, Jr., M.D.; Ronald C. Shank, Ph.D.; Thomas J. Slaga, Ph.D.; and Paul W. Snyder, D.V.M., Ph.D. The CIR Director is Lillian J. Gill, D.P.A. This report was prepared by Lillian C. Becker, Scientific Analyst/Writer.

ABSTRACT

This is a safety assessment of polysorbates as used in cosmetics. These ingredients mostly function as surfactants in cosmetics. The safety assessment combined the polysorbates reviewed in 3 former safety assessments with polysorbates that had not been assessed for safety into 1 report. The Panel reviewed relevant data related to these ingredients. The Cosmetic Ingredient Review (CIR) Expert Panel (Panel) concluded that polysorbates were safe as cosmetic ingredients in the practices of use and concentration of this safety assessment when formulated to be nonirritating. This conclusion supersedes the conclusion reached in the 3 former safety assessments.

INTRODUCTION

This is a re-review of the available scientific literature and unpublished data relevant to assessing the safety of polysorbates as used in cosmetics (Table 1). This safety assessment combines polysorbates reviewed previously in 3 safety assessments with other polysorbates that have not been reviewed by the CIR Panel into a group of 82 polyethoxylated sorbitan or sorbitol esters of fatty acids (Table 2). These ingredients have a common core structure of sorbitan or sorbitol, etherified with polyethoxy (PEG) chains, and esterified with fatty acids. These ingredients mostly function as surfactants in cosmetics.

In the original safety assessment published in 1984, the CIR Panel concluded that 9 polysorbates were safe as used. These ingredients are:¹

Polysorbate 20	Polysorbate 65
Polysorbate 21	Polysorbate 80
Polysorbate 40	Polysorbate 81
Polysorbate 60	Polysorbate 85
Polysorbate 61	

Other polysorbates, which are also polyethoxylated sorbitan or sorbitol esters of fatty acids and contain a PEG moiety, have been reviewed by the CIR Panel. In 2000², a safety assessment was published with a safe-as-used conclusion for the following 33 PEG sorbitan/sorbitol fatty acid esters:

PEG-20 sorbitan cocoate	PEG-40 sorbitan stearate
PEG-40 sorbitan diisostearate	PEG-60 sorbitan stearate
PEG-2 sorbitan isostearate	PEG-20 sorbitan tetraoleate
PEG-5 sorbitan isostearate	PEG-30 sorbitan tetraoleate
PEG-20 sorbitan isostearate	PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate
PEG-40 sorbitan lanolate	PEG-60 sorbitan tetraoleate
PEG-75 sorbitan lanolate	PEG-60 sorbitan tetrastearate
PEG-10 sorbitan laurate	PEG-20 sorbitan triisostearate
PEG-40 sorbitan laurate	PEG-160 sorbitan triisostearate
PEG-44 sorbitan laurate	PEG-18 sorbitan trioleate
PEG-75 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-40 hexaoleate (previously PEG-40 sorbitol hexaoleate)
PEG-80 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-50 hexaoleate (previously PEG-50 sorbitol hexaoleate)
PEG-3 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate laurate (previously PEG-30 sorbitol tetraoleate laurate)
PEG-6 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-60 tetrastearate (previously PEG-60 sorbitol tetrastearate)
PEG-80 sorbitan palmitate	
PEG-40 sorbitan perisostearate	
PEG-40 sorbitan peroleate	
PEG-3 sorbitan stearate	
PEG-6 sorbitan stearate	

There were 2 ingredients that were included in the 2000 report, but were not listed in the *International Cosmetic Ingredient Dictionary and Handbook*³ (*Dictionary*) at the time of the original review, and are not listed as cosmetic ingredients in the current *Dictionary*.⁴ One is PEG-18 sorbitan trioleate, which has 1 use listed in the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Voluntary Cosmetic Registration Program (VCRP)⁵ and is therefore included in this safety assessment. However, PEG-20 sorbitan tetraoleate has no uses listed in the VCRP, so is not included in this safety assessment.

In 2001⁶, a safety assessment was published with a safe-as-used conclusion for the following sorbitan beeswaxes:

Sorbeth-6 beeswax (formerly PEG-6 sorbitan beeswax)
Sorbeth-8 beeswax (formerly PEG-8 sorbitan beeswax)
Sorbeth-20 beeswax (formerly PEG-20 sorbitan beeswax)

At the time of this safety assessment, the Panel had recommended that cosmetic formulations containing PEGs (specifically PEG-6, PEG-20, and PEG-75) not be used on damaged skin. Since then, PEGs have been re-reviewed and the Panel has removed the caveat that PEGs should not be used on damaged skin.⁷

A brief summary of pertinent data from each report is provided below. The original polysorbate reports can be found on the CIR website, <http://www.cir-safety.org/ingredients>. Please refer to the original reports for detailed information.

The following 35 ingredients, which are also polyethoxylated sorbitan or sorbitol esters of fatty acids, are proposed as additions to this group:

PEG-20 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-20 pentaisostearate
PEG-40 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-30 pentaisostearate
PEG-4 sorbitan stearate	Sorbeth-40 pentaisostearate
PEG-4 sorbitan triisostearate	Sorbeth-50 pentaisostearate
PEG-2 sorbitan trioleate	Sorbeth-40 pentaoleate
PEG-3 sorbitan tristearate	Sorbeth-20 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-2 beeswax	Sorbeth-30 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-2 cocoate	Sorbeth-40 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-2 hexacaprylate/caprinate	Sorbeth-50 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-12 hexacocoate	Sorbeth-4 tetraoleate
Sorbeth-2 hexaisostearate	Sorbeth-6 tetraoleate
Sorbeth-2 hexalaurate	Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate
Sorbeth-2 hexaoleate	Sorbeth-40 tetraoleate
Sorbeth-6 hexastearate	Sorbeth-60 tetraoleate
Sorbeth-150 hexastearate	Sorbeth-3 tristearate
Sorbeth-3 isostearate	Sorbeth-160 tristearate
Sorbeth-6 laurate	Sorbeth-450 tristearate
Sorbeth-2/oleate/dimer dilinoleate crosspolymer	

The VCRP reported single uses for 3 other ingredients that are not listed in the Dictionary.⁸ Since there are reported uses for these 3 ingredients, they are also included in this safety assessment:

PEG-30 sorbitan beeswax
PEG-20 sorbitan laurate
PEG-20 sorbitan stearate

CIR has conducted safety assessments of the acids and related chemical structure moieties of these ingredients (Table 2). The Panel concluded that beeswax, coconut acid, isostearic acid, lanolin acid, oleic acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, stearic acid, and multiple stearates were safe-as-used.⁹⁻¹⁷ An array of alkyl esters and numerous PEGs were also assessed to be safe as used.^{7,18,19} Sorbitan esters have been reviewed with safe-as-used conclusions.²⁰⁻²²

Much of the new data included in this safety assessment were found on the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) website.²³⁻²⁵ The ECHA website provides robust summaries of information generated by industry, and it is those summary data that are reported in this safety assessment when ECHA is cited. Some of this data are for generic sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated and sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylate; these chemicals fit the general definition of several of these ingredients with the same CAS No. (ie, polysorbate 21, PEG-10 sorbitan laurate, PEG-40 sorbitan laurate, polysorbate 20, PEG-44 sorbitan laurate, PEG-75 sorbitan laurate, and PEG-80 sorbitan laurate all have the CAS No. 9005-64-5). It is expected that data under these chemicals names are for one or some mixture of the ingredients with that CAS No and are useful for read across information.

SUMMARIES OF PREVIOUS SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

Polysorbates, 1984

The Polysorbates are a series of polyoxyethylenated sorbitan esters that differ with respect to the number of polymerized oxyethylene subunits and the number and type of fatty acid moieties present.¹ They are used as general purpose, hydrophilic, nonionic surfactants in a variety of cosmetic products. Some of the Polysorbates are also approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in various pharmaceuticals and food products.

Studies employing radioactive tracer techniques show that the Polysorbates are hydrolyzed by pancreatic and blood lipases; the fatty acid moiety is released to be absorbed and metabolized, whereas the polyoxyethylene sorbitan moiety is very poorly absorbed and is excreted unchanged. As expected, the Polysorbates are active at levels of biological structure and function from basic biochemical pathways to the cardiovascular and immune systems. Most or all of these effects can most likely be related to the surface active properties of the intact Polysorbate molecule.

Polysorbate 80 was shown to be nonmutagenic in the Ames and micronucleus tests. The polysorbates have been shown in numerous studies to be noncarcinogenic when administered in a variety of ways to laboratory animals, although

Polysorbate 80 produced some neoplastic changes in mixed mouse epidermal and dermal in vitro tissue culture. Multiple studies have shown that the Polysorbates enhance the activity of known chemical carcinogens while not actually being carcinogenic themselves. Proposed mechanisms of this tumor enhancement effect include induction of cellular hyperproliferation, inhibition of DNA repair, and others. The Polysorbates also exhibit tumor growth inhibition activity under certain conditions.

Extensive testing for acute and long-term oral toxicity in animals has resulted in evidence indicating the low order of toxicity with oral ingestion of the Polysorbates. Most of the reported toxicity can be attributed either directly or indirectly to the osmotic diarrhea caused by the polyoxyethylene sorbitan moiety retained within the intestinal lumen. Polysorbate 20 and product formulations containing 1.0 to 8.4 percent of Polysorbate 20, 40, 80, or 85 produced no evidence of acute or subchronic percutaneous toxicity, the only effects being erythema, edema, and desquamation at the site of application. Acute intravenous and intraperitoneal injection of the Polysorbates into rats or mice resulted in LD₅₀ values indicative of a low order of parenteral toxicity. Daily intravenous injections of Polysorbates 60 and 80 into rabbits for up to 65 days produced pathology limited mainly to the renal and reticuloendothelial systems.

The Polysorbates showed little potential for rabbit and mouse skin irritation in acute studies. Those of the Polysorbates that were tested in subchronic skin irritation tests for up to 60 days produced local skin reactions ranging from minimal inflammation to necrosis. These changes were attributable to damage of epidermal cell membranes by the emulsifying action of the Polysorbates. The Polysorbates produced no more than minimal, transient eye irritation in Draize rabbit eye irritation tests. Polysorbate 80 produced superficial, mild damage to the intestinal mucosae of rabbits and rats. Polysorbate 20 produced no inflammation when applied to the hamster cheek pouch, and Polysorbate 40 caused no inflammation when infused into the guinea pig urinary bladder. The Magnusson-Kligman guinea pig maximization test showed moderate to strong skin sensitization to Polysorbate 20 in one study. Another guinea pig skin sensitization assay reported no evidence of skin sensitization to Polysorbates 65 and 80.

The Polysorbates have been ingested by human beings in situations ranging from an accidental administration of 19.2 g of Polysorbate 80 to an infant on 2 consecutive days to daily therapeutic administration of up to 6.0 g of Polysorbate 80 to adults for up to 4 years. These studies consistently showed little or no adverse effects from oral ingestion of the Polysorbates. Extensive clinical skin testing in the Schwartz prophetic patch test showed little potential for human skin irritation and no evidence of skin sensitization in a total of 580 subjects. A total of 1206 patients with eczema were tested in a chamber method 24-hour occlusive patch test for allergic contact dermatitis to a mixture of 5 percent Polysorbate 60 and 5 percent Polysorbate 80 in petrolatum; allergic reactions were shown by only 2 of the patients (< 0.2 percent). Several product formulations containing the Polysorbates have been tested for human skin sensitization on a total of 3481 subjects using a variety of testing methods; there were no reactions indicative of sensitization to any of the Polysorbates in these assays. Investigations with patients known to have skin disease revealed isolated instances of skin sensitization to Polysorbate 40 or 80. Intravenous injection of Polysorbate 80 produced hemodynamic changes in 5 patients. Studies involving exposure to ultraviolet light showed no instance of photocontact sensitization to the Polysorbates, although there were isolated instances of mild irritation following UV exposure when testing product formulations containing the Polysorbates.

PEGs Sorbitan/Sorbitol Fatty Acid Esters 2000

The PEGs Sorbitan/Sorbitol Fatty Acid Esters are ethoxylated sorbitan and sorbitol esters of fatty acids that function as surfactants in cosmetic formulations.² These ingredients were used in a total of 81 cosmetic formulations in 1998. The Polysorbates, which are food additives, were used in 1418 formulations. They are formed by the esterification of sorbitol or sorbitan with a fatty acid, followed by the chemical addition of ethylene oxide. Typical impurities can include the free fatty acids, alcohol, peroxides, isosorbide ethoxylates, and other compounds; 1,4-dioxane and other water-soluble by-products are removed during the manufacturing process.

Few data on the ingredients in this review were available; therefore, relevant data from the previous CIR safety assessments on the Polysorbates (other PEGs Sorbitan Fatty Acid Ester), PEGs, and Sorbitan Esters were included in this report as a further basis for assessing their safety in cosmetics.

During feeding studies, the Polysorbates were absorbed and hydrolyzed by blood and pancreatic lipases. The fatty acid moiety was absorbed and metabolized as any other dietary fatty acid, and the PEG Sorbitan moiety was excreted mainly in the urine. The gastrointestinal absorption of PEGs was dependent on the molecular weight; the greater the molecular weight, the lesser the absorption that occurs. In oral and IV studies, the PEGs were not metabolized and were rapidly eliminated in the feces and urine. PEGs were readily absorbed through damaged skin.

A number of cytotoxicity assays has been performed on the Polysorbates; they caused both membrane damage and reduced mitochondrial activity. A concentration of 5% PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate in rats caused the "destruction" of the mitochondria of the epithelium of the small intestine of Wistar rats. The Polysorbate (concentration= 10%) caused a portion of the microvilli to disappear with flattening of the surfaces of the epithelial cells. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate had immunosuppressive effects in Balb/c mice that had been immunized with ovalbumin. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate was also a histamine-releasing agent, and increased recruitment of peritoneal macrophages without modifying phagocytic activity. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (100 mg/ml) depressed cardiac potential in dogs and guinea pigs; the Polysorbate reduced mean arterial blood pressure and left ventricular dP/dt.

The Polysorbates had low toxicity in both acute and longterm toxicity studies using animals. In rats, the LD₅₀ values for these ingredients were >5 to >38.9 g/kg (oral), ~1.4 g/kg (IV), and 0.7 to >5 ml/kg (IP). When administered to rats by IP injection, 16% PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate and 32% PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate decreased locomotor activity. During an inhalation toxicity study, PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (7%; 0.1 to 0.2 ml) was relatively nontoxic. The Sorbitan Esters and PEGs also were relatively nontoxic to animals.

During a 14-day feeding study of 3000 to 50,000 ppm PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate, the high dose caused decreased body weight in male rats and mice, but no other clinical findings were reported. A vehicle containing 9% PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate and 1% PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate was mildly hepatotoxic to rabbits and, when given intraperitoneally, caused massive peritoneal fibrosis and degeneration of the kidneys in mice and rats. No adverse effects were observed in chicks fed 2% to 5% PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate for 7 weeks. Rats fed 10% of the Polysorbate for 8 weeks had diarrhea for the first few days of treatment, but no other signs of toxicity. Rats fed 1.5 ml PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (1%-4%) for 3 months had congestive and degenerative changes in the heart, liver, and kidneys. In 6-week studies using rats and monkeys, PEG-4 Sorbitan Stearate, PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate, and PEG-5 Sorbitan Oleate produced no significant adverse effects. In dermal toxicity studies, the PEGs did not cause signs of toxicity other than transient, mild erythema. Evidence of systemic toxicity was only observed in rabbits that received repeated topical applications of a PEG-based cream to abraded skin. Rats fed 1% to 4% Sorbitan Laurate for 6 weeks had decreased growth rates, and hamsters fed 15% for 68 days had degenerative changes of the gastrointestinal tract, and other lesions. Similar changes were observed in rats fed 25% Sorbitan Laurate for 70 days. Rhesus monkeys fed 2 g/day had no signs of toxicity after 6 weeks of treatment.

Growth retardation and diarrhea were noted in subchronic feeding studies of up to 1% PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate using mice. Diarrhea in these and other studies was attributed to the high concentrations of the unabsorbed PEG Sorbitan moiety in the intestinal lumen. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (up to 50,000 ppm) was nontoxic to rats and mice during a 13-week feed study. A concentration of 25% PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate caused microscopic changes of the urinary bladder, spleen, kidneys, and gastrointestinal tract in rats during a 21-week study. The PEGs were nontoxic during a 90-day oral toxicity study using rats. Feeding of 10% to 25% Sorbitan Laurate for 90 days to 23 weeks caused decreased body and organ weights, diarrhea, and hepatic lesions in rats.

During a chronic toxicity study using hamsters, 5% to 15% PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate caused microscopic lesions of the urinary bladder, kidneys, spleen, and gastrointestinal tract. In monkeys, 1 g/day PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate did not cause adverse effects after 17 months of treatment. Rats fed up to 2% PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate for over 2 years had no signs of toxicity. PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate, PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate, and PEG-20 Sorbitan Tristearate at concentrations <20% were nontoxic in long-term feeding studies using mice, rats, dogs, and hamsters. At concentrations of 20%, these Polysorbates caused some growth retardation and diarrhea, and had minor effects on longevity and reproduction. Studies using 2% PEG-20 Sorbitan Palmitate and PEG-20 Sorbitan Trioleate were also negative. In chronic studies, dogs fed 2% PEG-8, PEG-32, or PEG-75 for 1 year had no adverse effects; rats fed 5% Sorbitan Laurate for 2 years had no signs of toxicity, but only 15% of the treated and control rats survived to the end of the study.

The Polysorbates were nonirritating to mildly irritating in both in vivo and in vitro ocular irritation assays. The concentrations tested ranged from 1% to 100%. PEG-6 and PEG-75 did not cause corneal injuries when instilled into the conjunctival sac of rabbits, but 35% PEG-8 and 0.1 ml PEG-32 (melted in water bath) induced mild ocular irritation. Sorbitan Laurate (30%-100%) was not an ocular irritant in Draize ocular irritation tests using rabbits.

The Polysorbates had little potential for rabbit and mouse skin irritation in acute studies. Moderate to strong sensitization to PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate was observed in a Magnusson Kligman guinea pig maximization test; PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate and PEG-20 Tristearate were not sensitizers. PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate (1%) did not have comedogenic potential in rabbits. The Sorbitan Esters were generally mild skin irritants, but did not cause sensitization in animals. The PEGs were neither irritants nor sensitizers.

In teratology studies of thalidomide, the PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate vehicle (10 ml/kg) had no effect on the developing mouse embryo. In other studies, reproductive and developmental effects were seen primarily at exposure levels that were maternally toxic. PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate caused dose-dependent malformations of offspring when administered to Swiss and NMRI mice via IP injections. In the Chernoff-Kavlock assay using Alpk/AP rats, 10 ml/kg/day PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate reduced offspring litter size, survival, and weight gain when the Polysorbate was administered intraperitoneally, but the parameters did not differ from controls after dermal, oral, or subcutaneous administration. In another study using rats, PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate had a maternal no-observable-effect level (NOEL) of 500 mg/kg/day, a maternal low effect level of 5000 mg/kg/day, and a developmental NOEL of > 5000 mg/kg/day.

PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate, PEG-20 Sorbitan Palmitate, PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate, and PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate caused serious developmental effects in sea urchin embryos when administered at concentrations as low as 0.004% in sea water. Mice fed 10% PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate or PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate during a multigeneration study had offspring with decreased weanling weights, significantly smaller litters, and delivered more dead fetuses than mice of the control group. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate was not teratogenic in a rat whole-embryo culture study. In in vivo studies using neonatal rats, PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (1%-10%, IP injection) accelerated maturation, prolonged the estrous cycle, and induced chronic estrogenic stimulation. The ovaries were without corpora lutea and had degenerative follicles, and the uterus had epithelial squamous cell metaplasia and cytological changes. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (2500 mg/kg/day in one study; 1.25 ml/l drinking water in another) and PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate (0.1%-10% in one study; 5200 mg/kg/day in another) did not

cause developmental effects in rats and mice, but PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate in drinking water increased locomotor activity and exploratory behavior of offspring of treated rats.

The PEG monomer, ethylene glycol, and certain of its monoalkyl ethers are reproductive and developmental toxins. The CIR Expert Panel concluded that, as the PEGs Sorbitan and Sorbitol Esters are chemically different from the alkyl ethers of ethylene glycol and the alkyl ethers are not present as impurities, these ingredients pose no reproductive or developmental hazard. In subchronic and chronic oral toxicity studies, the PEGs did not cause adverse reproductive effects.

The Polysorbates were nonmutagenic in a number of bacterial and mammalian systems, with the exception of PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate, which produced both positive and negative results in genotoxicity assays.

In carcinogenicity studies, feeding of PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (up to 50,000 ppm) to rats and mice resulted in equivocal evidence of carcinogenicity; the male rats had an increased incidence of pheochromocytomas. The test compound was associated with inflammation and squamous hyperplasia of the nonglandular stomach in mice and with ulcers of the nonglandular stomach in female mice. PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate did not increase the incidence of neoplasms in the nonglandular stomach and glandular stomach when administered with the carcinogens ENNG and MNNG. In general, the Polysorbates were not oral or dermal carcinogens, and were weak tumor promoters. PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate and PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate (0.002%) inhibited metabolic cooperation in V79 Chinese Hamster cells in vitro, which could result in tumor promotion. PEG-20 Sorbitan Stearate has been reported to have an in vivo promoter response, and the Polysorbate induced the cytoplasmic accumulation of proliferin transcripts in mouse fibroblasts; proliferin is an antagonistic regulator of muscle-specific transcription, and can promote morphological transformation. The Polysorbates also had antitumor activity in animal studies. PEG-8 was noncarcinogenic in studies using mice, rats, and guinea pigs. Sorbitan Laurate and Sorbitan Stearate were also noncarcinogenic. At concentrations $\geq 10\%$, Sorbitan Laurate was a tumor promoter in mouse skin.

The Polysorbates were nontoxic by the oral route in clinical studies, but a Polysorbate vehicle (9% PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate, 1% PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate) for a neonatal parenteral supplement caused the deaths of 38 premature infants. The symptoms and lesions observed included pulmonary deterioration, hepatomegaly, metabolic acidosis, and renal failure. Investigators concluded that human infant membranes were more sensitive to the effects of the Polysorbates and could not efficiently metabolize the compounds. Oleic acid and PEG moieties released during in vivo hydrolysis of PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate could have contributed to the pulmonary deterioration and renal failure, as could ethylene glycol formed from ethylene oxide moieties.

The Polysorbates had little potential for human skin irritation, sensitization, and phototoxicity in extensive clinical studies. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate at a concentration of 100% was noncorrosive, and it and PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate were not irritating to living skin equivalents. The PEGs were nonsensitizers, but cases of systemic toxicity and contact dermatitis were observed in burn patients that were treated with PEG-based topical ointments. The Sorbitan Esters had the potential to cause cutaneous irritation in humans, and could cause sensitization in patients with damaged skin. Sorbitan Stearate and Sorbitan Oleate were not photosensitizing; Sorbitan Laurate, Sorbitan Palmitate, Sorbitan Sesquioleate, and Sorbitan Trioleate did not absorb UVA or UVB light, suggesting that these compounds were not photosensitizers.

In clinical ocular irritation studies, PEG-20 Sorbitan Laurate was nonirritating, but at a concentration of 1%, it markedly increased the permeability of the corneal epithelium to fluorescein in the human eye. PEG-20 Sorbitan Oleate was classified as an ocular irritant, but further details were not available.

Sorbitan Beeswax, 2001

PEG-6, -8, and -20 Sorbitan Beeswax are ethoxylated derivatives of Beeswax that function as surfactants in cosmetic formulations.⁶ In 1998, PEG-20 Sorbitan Beeswax was reported used in 16 cosmetic formulations; PEG-6 and -8 Sorbitan Beeswax were not reported used. Data submitted by industry indicated that PEG-20 Sorbitan Beeswax was used at concentrations from 0.2% in make-up fixatives to 11% in blushers. In 1984, it was reported used at concentrations $\geq 10\%$.

Few data were available on the PEGs Sorbitan Beeswax. Toxicology data on Beeswax, Synthetic Beeswax, Sorbitan Esters, PEGs, and Polysorbates were reviewed as a further basis for the assessment of safety.

The ester link of the Polysorbate (PEG Sorbitan Fatty Acid Ester) molecule was hydrolyzed by blood and pancreatic lipases after oral administration. The fatty acid moiety was absorbed and metabolized as any other dietary fatty acid, and the PEG Sorbitan moiety was poorly absorbed from the GI tract. GI absorption of PEG was inversely related to the molecular weight of the compound. PEGs are readily absorbed through damaged skin. Sorbitan Stearate was hydrolyzed to the stearic acid and anhydrides of sorbitol, and did not accumulate in the fat stores of the rat.

PEG-6 Sorbitan Beeswax was "practically nontoxic" when rats were treated with doses of 10.0 g/kg during acute IP studies. PEGs had low oral, dermal, and inhalation toxicity; greater molecular weight PEGs were less toxic than smaller molecular weight PEGs. The Polysorbates were not toxic during acute and long-term feeding studies, or during acute and short-term IV and IP injection studies. Formulations containing the Polysorbates produced no evidence of acute or subchronic percutaneous toxicity. Formulations containing up to 13% Beeswax (5 to 15 g/kg doses) were not toxic to rats. Undiluted Beeswax killed 2 of 10 rats within 2 days during an acute oral toxicity study. Ten rats fed 5 to 14.4 g/kg Synthetic Beeswax had chromorhinorrhea and chromodacryorrhea; rats fed 5 to 10.4 g/kg had diarrhea, ptosis, bulging eyes, and sniffing. Two rats died after ingestion of the high dose.

The Sorbitan Esters (<10%) were relatively nontoxic via ingestion. The lowest LD₅₀ (rats) reported was 31 g/kg Sorbitan Stearate. No adverse effects were observed when rats, mice, and dogs were fed 5% Sorbitans Laurate, Oleate, and Stearate for up to 2 years. In other studies, the feeding of 0.5%, 4%, and 10% Sorbitan Stearate to mice and rats resulted in depressed growth and renal and/or hepatic abnormalities.

Undiluted PEG-6 Sorbitan Beeswax was nonirritating to the eyes of rabbits, and a 30% aqueous solution of PEG-20 Sorbitan Beeswax was minimally irritating (Draize score= 3.5/11 0). Eye makeup formulations containing 1.5% to 2.0% PEG-20 Sorbitan Beeswax were non- to minimally irritating to the eyes of rabbits. PEGs, Polysorbates, Sorbitan Esters, Beeswax, and Synthetic Beeswax were non- to mild ocular irritants. Undiluted PEG-6 Sorbitan Beeswax was nonirritating to the intact and abraded skin of rabbits. Cosmetic formulations containing 1.5% to 2.0% PEG-20 Sorbitan Beeswax were non- to minimal irritants to the skin of rabbits. The PEGs were not irritating to the skin of rabbits or guinea pigs, and PEG-75 was not a sensitizer. The Polysorbates had little potential for rabbit and mouse skin irritation during acute studies. Polysorbate 20 was a moderate to strong sensitizer in one study using guinea pigs, and Polysorbates 65 and 80 were nonsensitizers. Synthetic Beeswax (5 g in 1 ml corn oil) had Draize scores of 0 to 2.08 (out of 8.00) during primary irritation studies using rabbits. At a concentration of 50% in water, Synthetic Beeswax was nonsensitizing to guinea pigs. Sorbitan Esters (3% to 100%) were minimal to mild irritants.

Ethylene glycol and certain of its monoalkyl ethers are reproductive and developmental toxins. As PEGs Sorbitan Beeswax are chemically different from these ethers, reproductive and developmental toxicity due to the ethers was not of concern. PEGs did not cause adverse reproductive effects during subchronic and chronic feeding studies.

PEG-8 and -150 were not mutagenic in several genotoxicity assays. Polysorbate 80 was nonmutagenic in the Ames test. Sorbitan Stearate was not mutagenic in tests using bacteria, with or without metabolic activation, and did not transform hamster embryo cells in vitro. Sorbitan Oleate (0.01%) inhibited in vitro DNA repair. PEG-8 was not carcinogenic during oral, IP, or subcutaneous (SC) administration. The Polysorbates were generally noncarcinogenic, but enhanced the activity of some known chemical carcinogens. Sorbitan Stearate was not carcinogenic in mice during a feeding study, but Sorbitan Laurate was a tumor promoter during a mouse skin-painting study. Sorbitans Oleate and Trioleate were inactive as tumor promoters. In another study, undiluted Sorbitans Laurate and Trioleate were not cocarcinogens.

In clinical studies, PEG-6 and -20 Sorbitan Beeswax were nonsensitizers. Formulations containing up to 3.0% PEG-20 Sorbitan Beeswax were mildly irritating and nonsensitizing during in-use, minicumulative, and RIPTs. Systemic toxicity and contact dermatitis were observed in burn patients treated with PEG-containing ointments, but PEGs were not sensitizing to normal skin. The Polysorbates and Sorbitan Esters were nontoxic after oral ingestion. Polysorbates, Beeswax, and Synthetic Beeswax did not cause irritation, sensitization, or photosensitization. The Sorbitan Esters were minimal to mild skin irritants in humans, but were nonsensitizing, nonphototoxic, and nonphotoallergenic.

CHEMISTRY

Definition and Method of Manufacture

The ingredients in this report are polyethoxylated sorbitan or sorbitol esters of fatty acids. Each ingredient has a common core structure of sorbitan or sorbitol, etherified with PEG chains, and esterified with fatty acids (Figure 1). Sorbitan is related to sorbitol as the simple dehydration product.

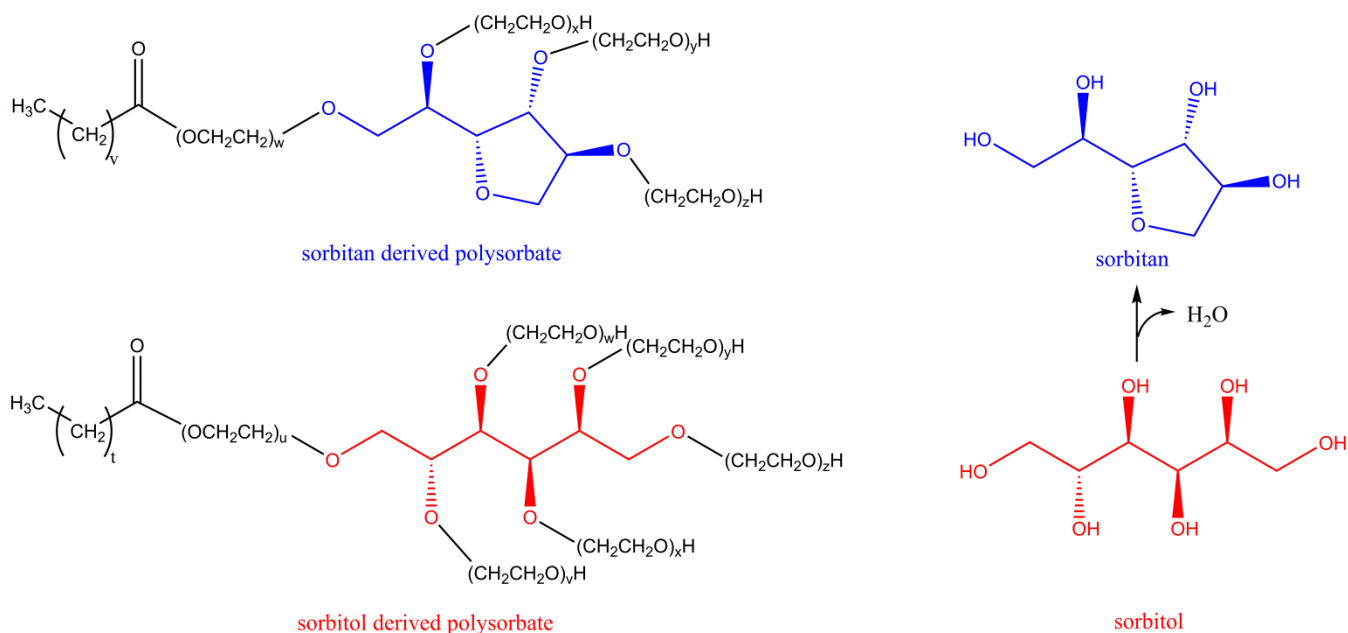


Figure 1. Polysorbates, sorbitan (“polysorbate-#” or “PEG-x sorbitan nomenclature”) and sorbitol (“sorbeth-#” nomenclature) derivatives.

While those ingredients with the nomenclature “polysorbate-#” form sorbitan by dehydration of sorbitol during the above reactions (which is consequently ethoxylated and esterified), those ingredients herein with the nomenclature “PEG-x sorbitan fatty ester” are the product of the ethoxylation of a preformed sorbitan ester. Regardless of the nomenclature, the ingredients under these two nomenclature schemes are related as polyethoxylated sorbitan esters. The ingredients with the nomenclature “sorbeth-#” are not the product of dehydration, but are the ethoxylated and esterified products of sorbitol. While these ingredients are predominately either sorbitan derivatives or sorbitol derivative, each may be mixtures resulting from some dehydration, isomerization, degree of ethoxylation, or degree of esterification. Accordingly, the ingredients in this report are closely related by like chemical structures and potential metabolism products (eg, via esterases known to be present in the skin).

Presented here are 2 possible routes for the synthesis of polysorbates.²⁶ In the first, sorbitol is esterified with fatty acids or their anhydrides, which is typically performed with acid catalysis at 130-180°C. At the temperature required for the esterification, water is eliminated from sorbitol to form 3 possible isomers of sorbitan and (with elimination of another water molecule) isosorbide. These dehydration products react with a fatty acid to form corresponding sorbitan esters. These products, which are known as “spans”, are ethoxylated to produce polysorbates.

In the other common method of manufacture, sorbitol is reacted with ethylene oxide and a basic catalyst at 200-250°C. Under these conditions, sorbitol is isomerized as above. Addition of ethylene oxide yields ethoxylated products, which are called carbowaxes, and which are subsequently esterified with fatty acids to produce oligomers of polyoxyethylene sorbitan esters (aka polysorbates).

Chemical and Physical Properties

Polysorbates (several of which are often referred to by the commercial trade name of Tween in the literature) are amphiphilic molecules, which are fatty esters of polyoxyethylated sorbitan or sorbitol.²⁶ The polysorbates are, for the most part, viscous liquids that range in color from yellow to orange to tan.¹ They possess a faint, characteristic odor and a warm, somewhat bitter taste (Table 3). The reported physical and chemical properties of generic sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated and sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated are provided in Table 4.

Since the fatty acids used in the production of cosmetic ingredients frequently contain fatty acids other than the principal acid named (ie, a mixture), each of the polysorbates may contain a complex mixture of fatty acid moieties.^{1,27} Table 5 provides an example of the approximate ester content of polysorbate 20, 21, 40, 60, and 80. Polysorbate 21 is reported to be 30%-80% monoesters, <50% diesters, and <20% triesters.²³ Sorbitan monolaurate is reported to be a mixture of esters of different lengths, with the highest percentage being C12, at 40%-60%.

Impurities

During the manufacturing process, the polysorbates are steam-stripped to remove unwanted water-soluble by-products such as 1,4-dioxane.¹ Since PEGs are the condensation products of ethylene oxide and water, with the chain length controlled by the number of moles of ethylene oxide that are polymerized, they may contain trace amounts of 1,4-dioxane, a by-product of ethoxylation. 1,4-Dioxane is a known animal carcinogen.²⁸ The FDA has been periodically monitoring the levels of 1,4-dioxane in cosmetic products, and the cosmetic industry reported that it is aware that 1,4-dioxane may be an impurity in PEGs and, thus, uses additional purification steps to limit it in these ingredients before blending into cosmetic formulations.^{29,30}

USE Cosmetic

The Panel assesses the safety of cosmetic ingredients based on the expected use of these ingredients in cosmetics. The Panel reviews data received from the FDA and the cosmetics industry to determine the expected cosmetic use. The data received from the FDA are collected from manufacturers on the use of individual ingredients in cosmetics, by cosmetic product category, through the FDA Voluntary Cosmetic Registration Program (VCRP), and the data from the cosmetic industry are submitted in response to a survey of the maximum reported use concentrations, by category, conducted by the Personal Care Products Council (Council).

In 2015, the highest number of uses were reported for polysorbate 20 at 3013 (an increase from 770 in 1998), polysorbate 60 at 1589 (an increase from 332 in 1998), and polysorbate 80 at 932 (an increase from 231 in 1998).^{1,2,8} Almost all of the previously reviewed ingredients had increases in the number of reported uses. All of the ingredients not previously reviewed had less than 15 reported uses (Tables 6 and 7).

A survey was conducted by the Council of the maximum use concentrations for ingredients in this group.^{31,32} The highest concentrations of use were reported for polysorbate 20 at 19.6% in bath soaps and detergents (a decrease from >50% in 1984), polysorbate 80 at 18.1% in paste masks and mud packs (a decrease from up to 25% in 1984), polysorbate 81 at 25.6% in skin cleansing products (an increase from up to 5% in 1984), and polysorbate 85 at 21.9% skin cleansing products (a decrease from >50% in 1984).^{1,2,31} The highest maximum concentration of use for leave-on products was 11.9% polysorbate 80 in perfumes.

In the 2000 published report, the only concentration of use data that were provided was the following: “...PEG-60 sorbitan tetraoleate, PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate, and PEG-160 sorbitan triisostearate are used in cosmetics at concentrations

of 0.5% to 10%...".² Since the data from the 2000 report are limited, the concentration of use data from the 1984 report were provided in Table 6 to give a better historical perspective.

PEG-18 sorbitan trioleate is no longer listed as a cosmetic ingredient in the *Dictionary*.⁴ However, the VCRP reported 1 use in a moisturizer, which is a decrease from 10 uses reported in 1998.⁸ The VCRP reported single uses for 3 other ingredients that are not listed in the *Dictionary*, PEG-20 sorbitan laurate (used in 1 other personal cleanliness product), PEG-20 sorbitan stearate (used in 1 night skin product), and PEG-30 sorbitan beeswax (used in 1 mascara). There were no concentrations of use reported for PEG-30 sorbitan beeswax.³² No further information was found.

The 42 ingredients with no reported uses or concentrations of use are listed in Table 8.

All of the polysorbates named in this report, except Sorbeth-450 tristearate, are listed in the European Union inventory of cosmetic ingredients.³³

In some cases, reports of uses were received in the VCRP, but no concentration of use data were available.^{8,31} For example, PEG-3 sorbitan stearate was reported to be used in 3 formulations, but no use concentration data were reported. In other cases, no reported uses were received in the VCRP, however a use concentration was provided in the industry survey. For example, PEG-40 sorbitan laurate was not reported in the VCRP to be in use, but the industry survey indicated that it is used in leave-on formulations at up to 2% (skin care preparations) and rinse-off formulations up to 0.5% (shampoos and hair dyes and colors). It should be presumed that PEG-40 sorbitan laurate was used in at least 3 cosmetic formulations.

Several of these polysorbate ingredients are used in cosmetic products that may be ingested at up to 5.8%, in cosmetics used around the eyes at up to 11%, and in baby products at up to 12.6%.^{31,32}

Polysorbates were reported to be used in cosmetic sprays, including aerosol and pump hair sprays, spray deodorants, spray body and hand products, and spray moisturizing products, and could possibly be inhaled. The highest concentration of use was reported to be polysorbate 20 in spray deodorants up to 4%. In practice, 95% to 99% of the droplets/particles released from cosmetic sprays have aerodynamic equivalent diameters $>10\ \mu\text{m}$, with propellant sprays yielding a greater fraction of droplets/particles below $10\ \mu\text{m}$ compared with pump sprays.³⁴⁻³⁷ Therefore, most droplets/particles incidentally inhaled from cosmetic sprays would be deposited in the nasopharyngeal and bronchial regions and would not be respirable (ie, they would not enter the lungs) to any appreciable amount.^{34,36} There is some evidence indicating that deodorant spray products can release substantially larger fractions of particulates having aerodynamic equivalent diameters in the range considered to be respirable.³⁴ However, the information is not sufficient to determine whether significantly greater lung exposures result from the use of deodorant sprays, compared to other cosmetic sprays.

Non-Cosmetic

The acceptable daily intake (ADI) for humans of polysorbates is 10 mg/kg.²⁶ The largest food sources of polysorbates are confectionery, ices, desserts, fine bakery wares, milk analogues, emulsified sauces, chewing gums, and fat emulsions for baking.

The polysorbates are used in the drug, food, and animal feed industries; several have been approved by the FDA as direct and indirect food additives for human consumption with certain restrictions (Table 9).

TOXICOKINETICS

Following oral administration of polysorbate 20 to rats, the ester bond sites of polysorbates are hydrolyzed within the digestive tract by pancreatic lipase.²⁵ Free fatty acids were absorbed from the digestive tract and oxidized and excreted, mainly as carbon dioxide in exhaled breath. No migration of the polyoxyethylene sorbitan into the thymus lymph nodes has been demonstrated. No sex difference has been detected in the disposition of polysorbates in rats.

Following oral ingestion of polysorbate 20 in humans, 90% or more of the administered substance was excreted in the feces as metabolites, with the polyoxyethylene sorbitan structure maintained, and 2%-3% of these metabolites were excreted in the urine.²⁵

Penetration Enhancement

Polysorbate 20, polysorbate 65, and polysorbate 80 enhanced the dermal penetration of albuterol sulfate through rat skin using Franz cells (Table 10).³⁸

TOXICOLOGICAL STUDIES

Acute Toxicity

Oral – Non-Human

POLYSORBATE 81

The oral LD₅₀ of polysorbate 81 was reported to be $> 20\ 000\ \text{mg/kg}$ for rats (n=11).²⁴

Oral - Human

SORBITAN MONOSTEARATE, ETHOXYLATED

No toxic effects were observed in human subjects (n=6) orally administered sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (20g).²⁵ The amount of gastric acid was slightly reduced. It was concluded that sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated was not orally toxic to humans.

Dermal – Non-Human

SORBITAN MONOSTEARATE, ETHOXYLATED

The acute dermal LD₅₀ of sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated in Wistar albino rats (n=10/sex) was reported to be >2000 mg/kg.²⁵

Inhalation – Non-Human

SORBITAN MONOLAUATE, ETHOXYLATED

The inhalation LC₅₀ was reported to be 5.1 mg/L air for sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated administered to Crl:WI(Han) rats (n=5) for 4 h in a nose-only apparatus.²³ No clinical signs of systemic toxicity were observed up to the end of the 14-day observation period. No abnormalities were observed at macroscopic post mortem examination of the animals.

Intravenous – Non-Human

POLYSORBATE 20

The intravenous LD₅₀ for polysorbate 20 in mice was reported to be 1420 mg/kg.²³

Repeated Dose Toxicity

In a survey of 4 laboratories of the historical use of vehicles for in vivo experiments, the highest no-observed-adverse-effect levels (NOAEL) of various routes of administration were assembled.³⁹ The highest oral NOAELs for polysorbate 20 were 250 and 500 mg/kg/d for 1 month and 90 days in rats, respectively, and 10 mg/kg/d for 1 month in mice (Table 11). For polysorbate 80, the highest oral NOAEL for 90 days in dogs was 5 mL/kg/d, and for 4 weeks in rats was 5 mL/kg/d. The NOAEL for intranasal administration of polysorbates 80 for 3 days to mice was 10 µL/nostril/d at 0.2%.

Oral – Non-Human

POLYSORBATE 20

In a 22-month feeding study, the NOAEL of polysorbate 20 in male C57BL/6 Jax mice was 114285.71 mg/kg/d (10% in feed).²⁵ Decreased hematologic values were observed but not specified. No characteristic morphologic anemia was observed. The feed contained 5% or 10% polysorbate 20. No further details were provided.

POLYSORBATE 80

There were no adverse effects or mortalities related to polysorbate 80 (0.005, 0.05, or 0.15 g/kg/d) when administered by gavage to Sprague-Dawley rats (n=5) for 5 days.⁴⁰ There were no clinical signs and no significant findings at necropsy. There were decreased serum glucose and increased serum sodium at all concentrations, as well as decreases in uric acid in the mid- and high-dose groups. The high-dose group exhibited a modest reduction in serum calcium levels.

There were no adverse effects or mortalities reported when Sprague-Dawley rats (n=6/sex) were orally administered polysorbate 80 (148, 740, or 3700 mg/kg/d in saline) for 28 days after 28 days of a high fat diet.⁴¹ It was not clear if the rats continued on the high fat diet during treatment with polysorbate 80.

In the same study, there were no adverse effects or mortalities reported when C57BL/6J mice (n=6/sex) were orally administered polysorbates 80 (400, 1600, or 6400 mg/kg/d in saline) for 28 days after 28 days of a high fat diet. In additional studies, there were no adverse effects or mortalities reported when the same strain of mice (n=5/sex) were orally administered polysorbate 20, polysorbate 40, or polysorbate 60 (1600 mg/kg/d in saline) for 28 days also after 28 days of a high fat diet. It was not clear if the rats continued on the high fat diet during treatment with the polysorbates.⁴¹

REPRODUCTIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL TOXICITY

POLYSORBATE 60

The teratogenic and reproductive NOAEL was reported to be 7693 mg/kg/d when polysorbate 60 (0, 0.1%, 1.0% or 10% in feed; 0, 99 mg/kg, 960 mg/kg, 7693 mg/kg) was administered to pregnant Wistar rats on gestations days 7-14.²⁵ There were no effects by polysorbate 60 on the number, sex ratio and body weights of live fetuses. There were no differences between the polysorbate 60-treated and control groups observed in the numbers of resorptions, dead fetuses and live fetuses per litter, the sex ratio of live fetuses, and the fetal body weight of both sexes. External, skeletal, and internal examinations of the fetuses revealed no evidence of teratogenesis. It was concluded that polysorbate 60 had no harmful effects on the prenatal development of the rat offspring.

POLYSORBATE 80

In a reproductive and developmental study where polysorbate 80 (500 and 5000 mg/kg/d in distilled water; 5 mL) was administered by gavage to Crl:CD BR VAF/PlusTM outbred albino rats (n=25) on gestation days 6-15, the maternal and the developmental NOAELs were reported to be >5000 mg/kg/d.²⁴ The control group was administered 5 mL/kg distilled water. No maternal mortalities or treatment-related clinical signs of toxicity were observed. No effects on weight gain, organ weights (except non-adverse increased relative liver weights), and feed and water consumption. There were no differences in the number of corpora lutea per dam, number of implantations per litter, percent preimplantation loss per litter,

percent resorptions per litter, and percent litters with resorptions. No adverse fetal effects were observed, including growth, viability, or development of the fetuses. There were no observed differences in malformations between treatment groups and controls.²⁴

GENOTOXICITY

In Vitro

POLYSORBATE 20

After conducting the series of assays of the cyto/genotoxicity of polysorbate 20 below, the authors concluded that this ingredient can induce apoptosis in human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVEC) and A549 lung cancer cells.⁴² The authors stated that when the following assays are considered together, they show that polysorbate 20 can interact with DNA in treated cells to cause DNA damage and fragmentation. Therefore, they concluded that polysorbate 20 inhibits the growth of both normal and cancer cell lines by inducing apoptosis via chromatin and DNA fragmentation.

In an MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) assay, there was a dose- and time-dependent reduction in cell growth for both the HUVEC and A549 cells with IC₅₀s of approximately 0.3 and 0.4 µL/mL polysorbate 20, respectively. There was >90% cell death observed after treatment with 2 µL/mL, and the greatest cell death was observed in the highest test group. For the assay, the cells were incubated in the various concentrations of polysorbate 20 (2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 µL/mL) for 24, 48, and 72 h, and then washed.

In a DAPI (4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole) staining assay, morphological changes and fragmentation in the chromatin and DNA rings within the nucleus were observed in the polysorbate-treated cells of both cell lines, but morphology was unaltered in untreated cells. Polysorbate 20-treated cells showed chromatin and DNA fragmentation as high as the positive control of 5% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). For the assay, the cells were treated with polysorbates 20 (4 µL/mL) for various durations (not provided), then fixed and stained with DAPI.

In a DNA fragmentation assay analyzed by agarose gel electrophoresis, polysorbate 20 (concentration not clear) induced apoptosis by DNA fragmentation after incubation for 24 h. The gel showed the formation of DNA ladders of both treated cell lines.

An alkaline comet assay showed that polysorbate 20 (2 µL/mL)-treated A549 cells exhibited increased DNA cleavages compared to untreated cells and similar DNA cleavages to the positive control, hydrogen peroxide (200 mM)-treated cells. Only A549 cells were used in this assay; HUVEC cells were not used.

When polysorbate 20 (2 µL/mL)-treated A549 cells were analyzed with a fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)-labeled annexin V apoptosis assay and flow cytometry analysis was used to estimate early and late apoptosis, the results were similar to the results of the DAPI staining assay. Almost all of the treated cells were in early and late stages of apoptosis after 24 h; less than half of DMSO-treated control cells were in early and late stages of apoptosis for the same period of exposure. Only A549 cells were used in this assay; HUVEC cells were not used.⁴²

POLYSORBATE 80

Polysorbate 80 was not genotoxic to *Salmonella typhimurium* (strains TA98, TA100, TA1535, and TA1537) at up to 10 000 µg/plate (in distilled water) with and without metabolic activation.²⁴ The controls had the expected results.

Polysorbate 80 was not genotoxic to *S. typhimurium* (strains TA1535, TA1537, TA98 and TA100) and *Escherichia coli* (strain WP2 uvr A) at up to 5000 µg/plate (in ethanol) with and without metabolic activation.²⁴ The controls had the expected results.

SORBITAN MONOLAURATE, ETHOXYLATED

Sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated was not mutagenic, with or without metabolic activation, in an Ames assay using *S. typhimurium* (strains TA1535, TA1537, TA98, and TA100) and *E. coli* (strain WP2 uvr A) in 3 separate experiments.²³ In experiment 1, *S. typhimurium* (strains TA1535, TA1537, TA98) was tested at 10-3330 µg/plate in ethanol; and *S. typhimurium* (strain TA100) and *E. coli* were also tested at 3 and 5000 µg/plate with and without metabolic activation. In experiment 2, *S. typhimurium* (strains TA1535 and TA98) was tested at 33-5000 µg/plate in ethanol with and without metabolic activation. In experiment 3, all strains were tested again at 33-5000 µg/plate in ethanol with and without metabolic activation. Controls had the expected results.

In a chromosomal aberration assay using human lymphocytes, sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated was not genotoxic up to 100 µg/mL in ethanol, with and without metabolic activation, but was cytotoxic at 300 µg/mL.²³ Assays were run for 3, 24 and 48h. Controls had the expected results.

In 2 mammalian cell gene mutation assays using mouse lymphoma L5178Y cells, sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated was not found to be genotoxic.²³ In the first experiment, the cells were tested for 3 h at 0.3-275 µg/mL without metabolic activation and at 0.3-300 µg/mL with metabolic activation in ethanol. In the second experiment, the cells were tested for 3 h at: 0.3-150 µg/mL without metabolic activation and at 0.3-350 µg/mL with metabolic activation in ethanol. Controls had the expected results.

SORBITAN MONOOLEATE, ETHOXYLATED

Sorbitan monooleate, ethoxylated produced ambiguous results in a chromosome aberration assay using Chinese hamster ovary (CHO; CHO-W-B1) cells.²⁴ The number and percentages of aberrations did not change in a concentration-dependent manner. Sorbitan monooleate, ethoxylated was tested at 300-1600 µg/mL without metabolic activation and 100-1000 µg/mL in DMSO. The positive controls were mitomycin and cyclophosphamide, which had the expected results.

Sorbitan monooleate, ethoxylated was not genotoxic in a chromosome aberration assay using CHO (CHO-W-B1) cells.⁴³ Sorbitan monooleate, ethoxylated was tested at 300-1600 µg/mL without metabolic activation and 16-500 µg/mL in DMSO. The positive controls were mitomycin and cyclophosphamide. The controls had the expected results.

SORBITAN MONOSTEARATE, ETHOXYLATED

Sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (concentration and vehicle were not specified) was not mutagenic in a bacterial gene mutation assay using *S. typhimurium* (strain TA 98) with metabolic activation.²⁵

CARCINOGENICITY

No new carcinogenicity data on polysorbates were found in the published literature nor were unpublished data provided.

IRRITATION AND SENSITIZATION

Irritation

Dermal – Non-Human

POLYSORBATE 60

In a daily skin-painting study of polysorbate 60 (5% aqueous) on rabbits for 30 days, there was moderate irritation observed; skin necrosis occurred when a 10% solution was tested.²⁵ In a further study on rabbits, there were no dermal effects from a 15% aqueous solution administered for 60 consecutive days; there was mild irritation after administration of an undiluted solution. Local inflammation also occurred after long-term (time not specified) administration of an undiluted polysorbate 60 solution to mouse skin (n not specified).

SORBITAN MONOLAURATE, ETHOXYLATED

Sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated (100%; 0.5mL) had a Draize score of 0.89 out of 4 when administered to New Zealand White rabbits (n=3) for 4 h under occlusion.²³ Scaliness was observed in all 3 animals at 72 h after exposure and in 1 rabbit at 7 days after exposure. The test sites were observed at 1, 24, 48, and 72 h and 7 days. An untreated site on each rabbit served as the control.

SORBITAN MONOSTEARATE, ETHOXYLATED

When sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (5% and 10% aqueous) was dermally administered to rabbits (n not specified) for 30 days, the test substance caused necrosis of the skin at 10%.²⁵ The necrosis was reversible after stopping treatment. Moderate irritation was observed at 5%.

Administration of sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (100%) for 60 days did not cause irritation in rabbits.²⁵ No further information was provided.

Sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (100%; 0.5 g) did not produce any skin reaction when administered to the shaved backs (approximately 6 cm²) of New Zealand white rabbits (n=3).²⁵ The irritation score was 0.8 out of 8. The test substance was administered under occlusion for 4 h; the test site was observed for 14 days after removal.

Dermal – Human

In human irritation studies, polysorbate 60 (100%), polysorbate 80 (100%), and sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (25%) were not dermally irritating (Table 12).^{25,44-46}

Ocular – Non-Human

Tests of polysorbate 20 (up to 10%) and polysorbate 81 (up to 100%) showed that these ingredients were not ocular irritants in rabbits (Table 13).⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ Sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (0.1 g in water) and sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated (100%; 0.1 mL) were not ocular irritants to rabbits.^{23,24}

Ocular – In Vitro

POLYSORBATE 20

In vitro ocular irritation tests of polysorbate 20 had mixed results. EpiOcular tests, a red blood cell hemolysis assay, and a k562 cell assay predicted polysorbate 20 to be a non- or minimal ocular irritant at 2% and 100% (Table 13).^{50,51} Polysorbate 20 was predicted to be an ocular irritant in a short time exposure (STE) assay using SIRC cells, Hen's Egg test-Chorioallantoic Membrane (HET-CAM) assays, and Bovine Corneal Opacity and Permeability (BCOP) assay.⁵⁰

Sensitization

Non-Human

POLYSORBATE 81

Polysorbate 81 (2% and 4% in corn oil) was not sensitizing to female Dunkin-Hartley guinea pigs (n=10) when the guinea pigs were challenged 21 days after last induction at 100% (0.5 mL).^{23,24} There were no signs of sensitization up to 72 h after the challenge. The positive control, α -hexyl cinnamic acid (20%), had the expected results.

SORBITAN MONOLAURATES, ETHOXYLATED

In a local lymph node assay, using female CBA mice (n=5), of sorbitan monolaurates, ethoxylated (25%, 50% and 100% in acetone/olive oil [4:1 v/v]; 25 μ L), the stimulation indexes (SI) were calculated to be 1.9, 6.0 and 5.0, respectively. The test substance was considered sensitizing.²³ The authors noted that the response of the 100% group did not follow the expected dose-response relationship, which they also noted was common in this kind of study. The response might be less due to differences in skin penetration (no vehicle present) or viscosity. The estimated concentration of polysorbates that would give an SI of 3 was calculated to be 34%. The positive control, hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, had the expected results.

Human

POLYSORBATE 81

In a human patch test (n=50), polysorbate 81 (100%) was not sensitizing.²⁴ There were no signs of irritation or sensitization observed in any subject. The test material was administered under occlusion for 3 days. After 7 days, challenge patches were administered for 72 h.

In a human patch test (n=10), polysorbate 81 (100%) was not sensitizing.²⁴ There were no signs of irritation or sensitization observed in any subject. The test material was administered under occlusion for 5 days. After 10 days, challenge patches were administered for 48 h.

In a human patch test (n=10), polysorbate 81 (12%; vehicle not specified) was not sensitizing.²⁴ There were no signs of irritation or sensitization observed in any subject. The test material was administered under occlusion for 5 days. After 10 days, challenge patches were administered for 48 h.

SUMMARY OF NEW DATA

This is a re-review of the safety of polysorbates as used in cosmetics. Safety assessments of various polysorbates were published in 1984, 2000, and 2001 with conclusions of safe as used. These safety assessments have been combined, and additional polysorbate ingredients have been identified and included, in this assessment for a total of 82 ingredients. All of these polysorbate ingredients are related in that they have a common core structure of sorbitan or sorbitol etherified with PEG chains.

The highest number of uses were reported for polysorbate 20 at 3013 (an increase from 770 in 1998), polysorbate 60 at 1589 (an increase from 332 in 1998), and polysorbates 80 at 932 (an increase from 231 in 1998). Almost all of the previously reviewed ingredients had increases in the number of reported uses. The highest maximum concentrations of use were reported for polysorbate 20 at 19.6% (a decrease from >50% in 1984), polysorbate 80 at 18.1% (a decrease from up to 25% in 1984), polysorbate 81 at 25.6% (an increase from up to 5% in 1984), and polysorbate 85 at 21.9% (a decrease from >50% in 1984) in rinse-off products. The highest maximum concentration of use for leave-on products was 11.9% polysorbate 80 in perfumes.

Polysorbate 20, polysorbate 65, and polysorbate 80 enhanced the dermal penetration of albuterol sulfate through rat skin.

The oral LD₅₀ of polysorbate 81 was reported to be > 20 000 mg/kg for rats. The acute dermal LD₅₀ of sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated in rats was reported to be >2000 mg/kg. The inhalation LC₅₀ was reported to be 5.1 mg/L air for sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated administered to rats for 4 h. The intravenous LD₅₀ for mice was reported to be 1420 mg/kg.

There were no adverse effects or mortalities related to polysorbate 80 (up to 0.15 g/kg) when administered by gavage to rats for 5 days or in rats orally administered polysorbate 80 (up to 3700 mg/kg/d) for 28 days. There were no adverse effects observed in mice orally administered polysorbate 80 (up to 6400 mg/kg/d), or polysorbate 20, polysorbate 40, or polysorbate 60 (1600 mg/kg/d) for 28 days.

The teratogenic and reproductive NOAEL of polysorbate 60 was reported to be 7693 mg/kg/d (ie, the highest dose tested) when administered to pregnant rats on gestations days 7-14 in feed. In a reproductive and developmental study where polysorbate 80 was administered by gavage to rats on gestation days 6-15, the maternal and the developmental NOAELs were reported to be >5000 mg/kg/d.

Polysorbate 80 was not genotoxic to *S. typhimurium*, up to 10 000 μ g/plate, and *E. coli*, up to 5000 μ g/plate, with and without metabolic activation

The combined results of MTT, DAPI, DNA fragmentation, alkaline comet, and FITC-labeled annexin V apoptosis assays led to the conclusion that polysorbate 20 had the capability of interaction with DNA in treated HUVEC and A549 lung cancer cells that resulted in DNA damage and fragmentation. It was concluded that polysorbates 20 inhibits the growth of both normal and cancer cell lines by inducing apoptosis via chromatin and DNA fragmentation.

In a 30-day skin-painting study of polysorbate 60 in rabbits, there was moderate irritation observed at 5% and skin necrosis at 10%. In a study in rabbits, there were no dermal effects from a 15% aqueous solution of polysorbate 60 administered for 60 consecutive days; there was mild irritation after administration of an undiluted solution. Local inflammation also occurred after long-term (time not specified) administration of an undiluted polysorbate 60 solution to mouse skin.

In a clinical test, polysorbate 60 at 100%, polysorbate 80 at 100%, and sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated at 25% were not dermally irritating.

In vivo tests of polysorbate 20 (up to 10%) and polysorbate 81 (up to 100%) showed these ingredients not to be ocular irritants. In vitro predictions tests had mixed results. EpiOcular tests, a red blood cell hemolysis assay, and a k562 cell assay predicted that polysorbate 20 to be a non- or minimal ocular irritant at 2% and 100%. STE at 5%, HET-CAM at 100%, and BCOP at 100% predicted that polysorbate 20 would be a mild to severe ocular irritant.

Polysorbate 81 up to 4% was not sensitizing to guinea pigs when challenged 21 days after last induction at 100%. Polysorbate 81 at 100% was not sensitizing in human patch tests.

DISCUSSION

This is a re-review of polysorbates from 3 previous safety assessments that have been combined, along with similar polysorbates that have not been reviewed, into one report. The Panel agreed that grouping these ingredients together was appropriate because of the common core structure of sorbitan or sorbitol, etherified with PEG chains, and esterified with fatty acids.

The CIR Expert Panel recognizes that there are data gaps regarding use and concentration of these ingredients. However, the overall information available on the types of products in which these ingredients are used, concentrations of use and the similar pattern of use raise little safety concerns.

The Panel cautioned that polysorbate 20, polysorbate 65, and polysorbate 80 can enhance drug absorption. The Panel cautions that care should be taken in formulating cosmetic products that may contain these ingredients in combination with any ingredients whose safety was based on their lack of dermal absorption data, or when dermal absorption was a concern. Especially, care should be taken when creating formulations especially those products intended for use on infants.

To address the possible presence of 1,4-dioxane and ethylene oxide impurities in these ingredients, the Panel stressed that the cosmetics industry should continue to use the necessary procedures to limit these impurities from the PEG ingredients before blending them into cosmetic formulations.

The Panel expressed concern about pesticide residues and heavy metals that may be present in botanical (ie, coconut-derived) ingredients. They stressed that the cosmetics industry should continue to use current good manufacturing practices (cGMPs) to limit impurities.

Data from the 1984 safety assessment suggested that polysorbates caused a slight enhancement of tumor development caused by 7, 12-dimethyl-benz[a]anthracene (DMBA) and *N*-methyl-*N'*-nitro-*N*-nitrosoquinidine (MNNG). However the data were not consistent. For other compounds, the tumorigenic properties of 3-methyl-chloanthrene (MCA) and 3,4-benz[a]-pyrene (BP) were not enhanced by polysorbates. Overall, since tumor enhancement was not consistently demonstrated, the Panel was not concerned.

Because some studies showed minimal irritation at concentrations that are used in cosmetics, the Panel cautioned that products containing these ingredients should be formulated to be non-irritating.

It was noted that at the time of the 2001 safety assessment on the sorbeth beeswaxes, the Panel had recommended that cosmetic formulations containing PEGs not be used on damaged skin. Since then, PEGs have been re-reviewed and the Panel has removed the caveat that PEGs should not be used on damaged skin.

The Panel discussed the issue of incidental inhalation exposure from including aerosol and pump hair sprays, spray deodorants, spray body and hand products, and spray moisturizing products. The limited acute exposure data available from 1 inhalation study suggest little potential for respiratory effects at relevant doses. The Expert Panel believes that the sizes of a substantial majority of the particles of these ingredients, as manufactured, are larger than the respirable range and/or aggregate and agglomerate to form much larger particles in formulation. These ingredients are reportedly used at concentrations up to 4% in cosmetic products that may be aerosolized. The Panel noted that 95% – 99% of droplets/particles would not be respirable to any appreciable amount. Coupled with the small actual exposure in the breathing zone and the concentrations at which the ingredients are used, the available information indicates that incidental inhalation would not be a significant route of exposure that might lead to local respiratory or systemic effects. The Panel considered other data available to characterize the potential for polysorbates to cause systemic toxicity, irritation, sensitization, reproductive and developmental toxicity, and genotoxicity. They noted the lack of systemic toxicity at low and moderate doses in several acute and repeated dose oral exposure studies and low toxicity at high doses; little or no irritation or sensitization in multiple tests of dermal and ocular exposure; the absence of genotoxicity in multiple Ames tests and chromosome aberration tests, and minimal irritation and lack of sensitization in tests of dermal exposure at concentration of use. A detailed discussion and summary of the Panel's approach to evaluating incidental inhalation exposures to ingredients in cosmetic products is available at <http://www.cir-safety.org/cir-findings>.

CONCLUSION

The CIR Expert Panel concluded that polysorbates are safe in cosmetics when formulated to be non-irritating. This conclusion supersedes the conclusion reached in the 1984, 2000, and 2001 safety assessments.

Polysorbate 20	PEG-20 sorbitan triisostearate*
Polysorbate 21	PEG-160 sorbitan triisostearate
Polysorbate 40	PEG-2 sorbitan trioleate*
Polysorbate 60	PEG-18 sorbitan trioleate
Polysorbate 61	PEG-3 sorbitan tristearate*
Polysorbate 65	Sorbeth-2 beeswax*
Polysorbate 80	Sorbeth-6 beeswax
Polysorbate 81	Sorbeth-8 beeswax*
Polysorbate 85	Sorbeth-20 beeswax
PEG-30 sorbitan beeswax	Sorbeth-2 cocoate*
PEG-20 sorbitan cocoate	Sorbeth-2 hexacaprylate/caprates*
PEG-40 sorbitan diisostearate	Sorbeth-12 hexacocoate*
PEG-2 sorbitan isostearate*	Sorbeth-2 hexaisostearate*
PEG-5 sorbitan isostearate*	Sorbeth-2 hexalaurate*
PEG-20 sorbitan isostearate	Sorbeth-2 hexaoleate*
PEG-40 sorbitan lanolate	Sorbeth-40 hexaoleate*
PEG-75 sorbitan lanolate*	Sorbeth-50 hexaoleate*
PEG-10 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-6 hexastearate*
PEG-20 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-150 hexastearate*
PEG-40 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-3 isostearate*
PEG-44 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-6 laurate*
PEG-75 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-2/oleate/dimer dilinoleate crosspolymer*
PEG-80 sorbitan laurate	Sorbeth-20 pentaisostearate*
PEG-3 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-30 pentaisostearate*
PEG-6 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-40 pentaisostearate*
PEG-20 sorbitan oleate*	Sorbeth-50 pentaisostearate*
PEG-40 sorbitan oleate*	Sorbeth-40 pentaoleate*
PEG-80 sorbitan palmitate*	Sorbeth-20 tetraisostearate*
PEG-40 sorbitan perisostearate*	Sorbeth-30 tetraisostearate
PEG-40 sorbitan peroleate	Sorbeth-40 tetraisostearate*
PEG-3 sorbitan stearate	Sorbeth-50 tetraisostearate*
PEG-4 sorbitan stearate*	Sorbeth-4 tetraoleate
PEG-6 sorbitan stearate	Sorbeth-6 tetraoleate
PEG-20 sorbitan stearate	Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate
PEG-40 sorbitan stearate	Sorbeth-40 tetraoleate
PEG-60 sorbitan stearate*	Sorbeth-60 tetraoleate
PEG-30 sorbitan tetraoleate	Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate laurate*
PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate	Sorbeth-60 tetrastearate*
PEG-60 sorbitan tetraoleate	Sorbeth-3 tristearate*
PEG-60 sorbitan tetrastearate*	Sorbeth-160 tristearate*
PEG-4 sorbitan triisostearate*	Sorbeth-450 tristearate*

*Not reported to be in current use. Were ingredients in this group not in current use to be used in the future, the expectation is that they would be used in product categories and at concentrations comparable to others in this group.

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1. The Definitions and Functions of the Polysorbates in This Safety Assessment.⁴
[Bracketed entries are the work product of CIR staff]

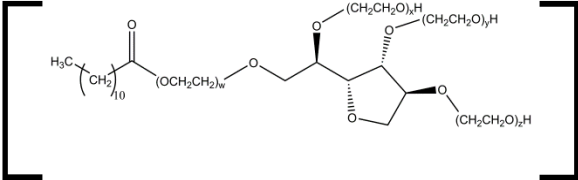
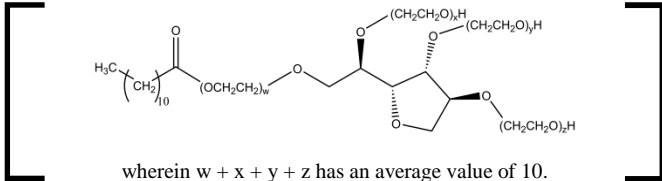
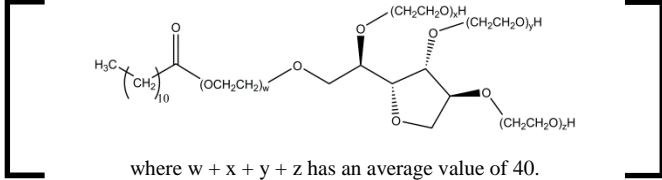
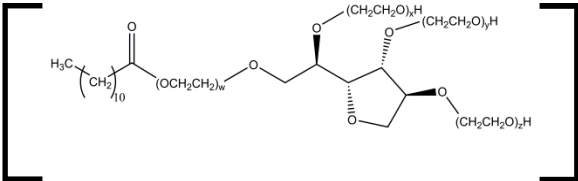
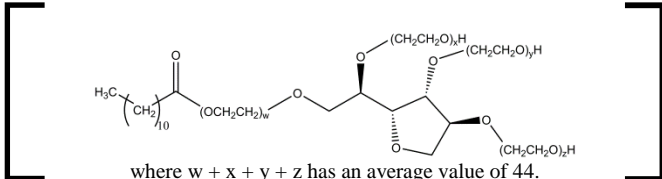
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
<i>Polysorbate Monoesters</i>		
<i>Sorbitan derivatives</i>		
Polysorbate 21 9005-64-5 (generic)	A mixture of laurate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 4 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
		
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 4.		
PEG-10 sorbitan laurate 9005-64-5 (generic)	PEG-10 Sorbitan Laurate is an ethoxylated sorbitan ester of lauric acid with an average of 10 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
		
wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 10.		
PEG-40 sorbitan laurate 9005-64-5 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of lauric acid with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
		
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 40.		
Polysorbate 20 9005-64-5 (generic)	A mixture of laurate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 20 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
		
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.		
PEG-44 sorbitan laurate 9005-64-5 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of lauric acid with an average of 44 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
		
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 44.		

Table 1. The Definitions and Functions of the Polysorbates in This Safety Assessment.⁴
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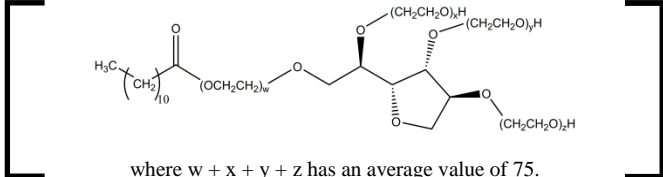
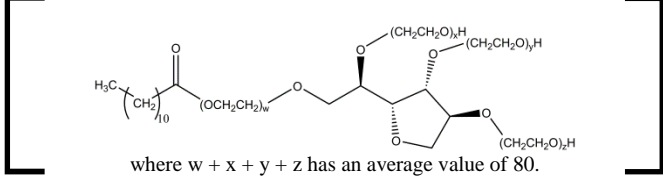
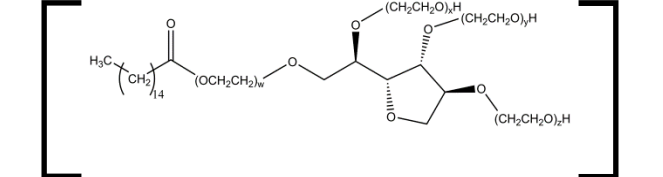
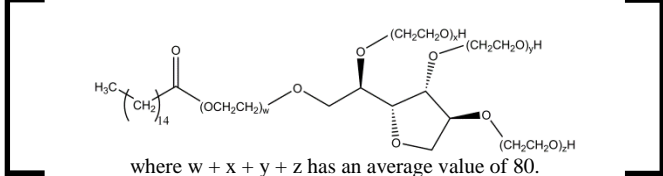
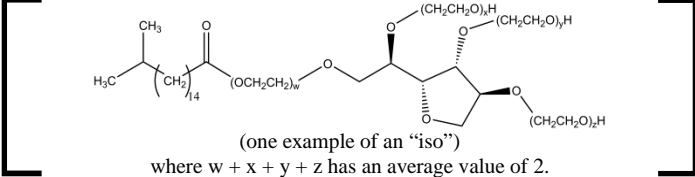
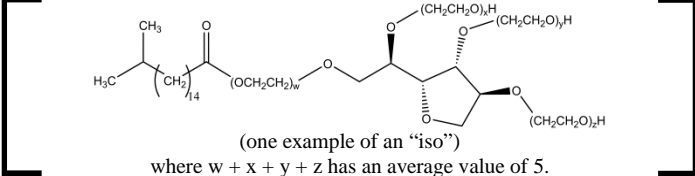
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
PEG-75 sorbitan laurate 9005-64-5 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of lauric acid with an average of 75 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p style="text-align: center;">where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 75.</p>		
PEG-80 sorbitan laurate 68154-33-6 (generic) 9005-64-5 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of lauric acid with an average of 80 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p style="text-align: center;">where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 80.</p>		
Polysorbate 40 9005-66-7	A mixture of palmitate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 20 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p style="text-align: center;">where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		
PEG-80 sorbitan palmitate 9005-66-7 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of palmitic acid with an average of 80 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p style="text-align: center;">where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 80.</p>		
PEG-2 sorbitan isostearate 66794-58-9 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of isostearic acid with an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p style="text-align: center;">(one example of an "iso") where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 2.</p>		
PEG-5 sorbitan isostearate 66794-58-9 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of isostearic acid with an average of 5 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p style="text-align: center;">(one example of an "iso") where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 5.</p>		

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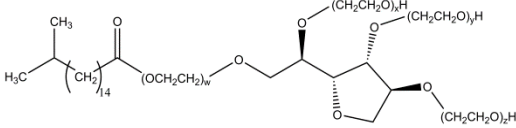
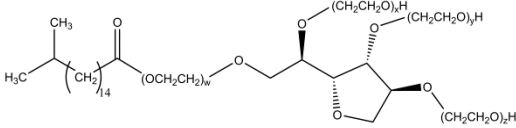
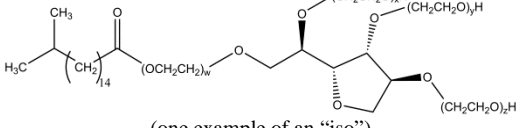
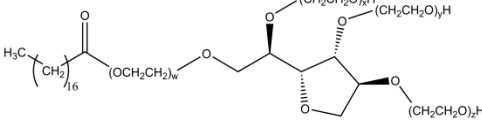
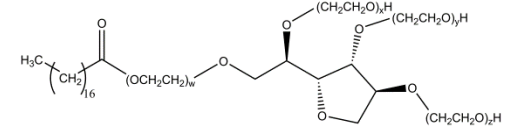
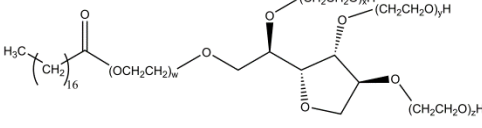
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
PEG-20 sorbitan isostearate 66794-58-9 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of isostearic acid with an average of 5 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso") where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		
PEG-3 sorbitan stearate 9005-67-8 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of stearic acid with an average of 3 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso") where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 3.</p>		
PEG-4 sorbitan stearate 9005-67-8 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of stearic acid with an average of 4 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso") where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 4.</p>		
Polysorbate 61 9005-67-8 (generic)	A mixture of stearate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 4 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 4.</p>		
PEG-6 sorbitan stearate 9005-67-8 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan monoester of stearic acid with an average of 6 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 6.</p>		
Polysorbate 60 9005-67-8 (generic)	A mixture of stearate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 20 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p>where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		

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Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Polysorbate 65 9005-71-4	A mixture of stearate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the triester, condensed with approximately 20 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.		
PEG-40 sorbitan stearate 9005-67-8 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of stearic acid with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 40.		
PEG-60 sorbitan stearate 9005-67-8 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of stearic acid with an average of 60 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 60.		
PEG-3 sorbitan oleate 9005-65-6 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of oleic acid with an average of 3 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 3.		
Polysorbate 81 9005-65-6 (generic)	A mixture of oleate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 5 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 5.		
PEG-6 sorbitan oleate 9005-65-6 (generic)	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of oleic acid with an average of 6 moles of ethylene oxide.	Fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent
wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 6.		

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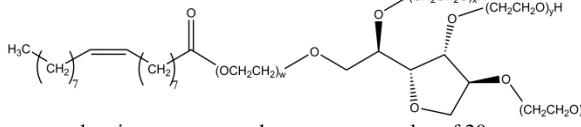
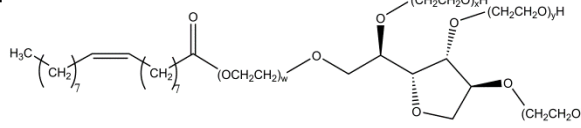
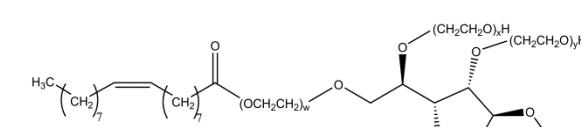
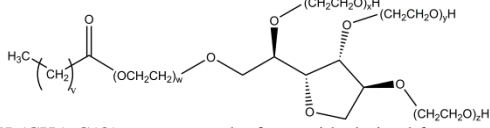
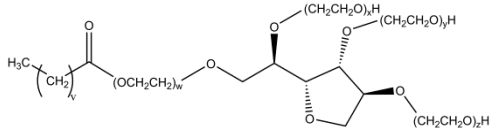
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
PEG-20 sorbitan oleate	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of oleic acid with an average of 20 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p>wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		
Polysorbate 80 9005-65-6 (generic)	A mixture of oleate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the monoester, condensed with approximately 20 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula:	Denaturant; fragrance ingredient; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p>where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		
PEG-40 sorbitan oleate	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of oleic acid with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p>wherein $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		
PEG-20 sorbitan cocoate	An ethoxylated sorbitan ester of coconut acid with an average of 20 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p>wherein $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_x\text{C}(\text{O})-$ represents the fatty acids derived from <i>cocos nucifera</i> (coconut) oil and $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20. The fatty acid distribution of coconut oil is 0-1% caproic, 5-9% caprylic, 6-10% capric, 44-52% lauric, 13-19% myristic, 0-1% palmitoleic, 1-3% stearic, 5-8% oleic, and trace-2.5% linoleic acid.⁵²</p>		
PEG-40 sorbitan lanolate 8036-77-9	An ethoxylated sorbitan derivative of lanolin acid with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p>wherein $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_x\text{C}(\text{O})-$ represents the fatty acids derived from lanolin acid and $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 40. The length of the lanolin fatty acid chain varies from 7 to 41 carbon atoms. The main fatty acids are palmitic (C16), stearic (C18) and longer molecules (C20 to C 32).¹³</p>		

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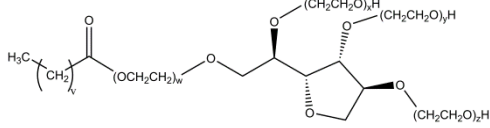
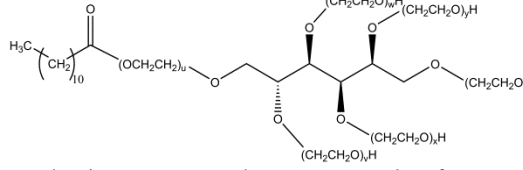
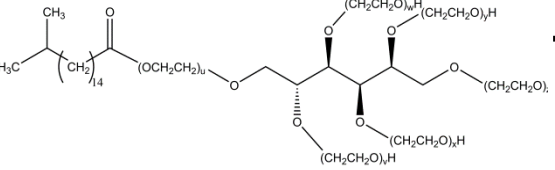
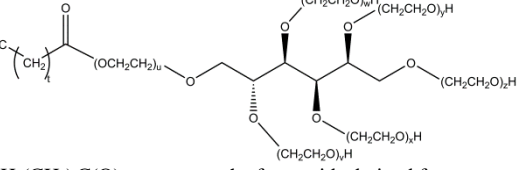
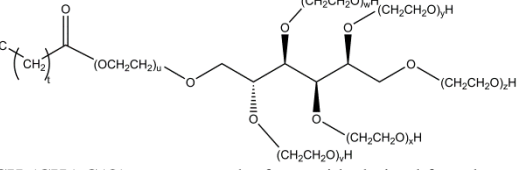
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
PEG-75 sorbitan lanolate 8051-13-6	An ethoxylated sorbitan derivative of lanolin acid with an average of 75 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p>wherein CH₃(CH₂)_xC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from lanolin acid and w + x + y + z has an average value of 75. The length of the lanolin fatty acid chain varies from 7 to 41 carbon atoms. The main fatty acids are palmitic (C16), stearic (C18) and longer molecules (C20 to C 32).¹³</p>		
Polysorbate Monoesters <i>Sorbitol derivatives</i>		
Sorbeth-6 laurate [66686-72-4]	The ester of lauric acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 6 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p>wherein u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 6.</p>		
Sorbeth-3 isostearate	The ester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 3 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso") wherein u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 3.</p>		
Sorbeth-2 cocoate	The ester of the fatty acids derived from cocos nucifera (coconut) oil and a polyethylene glycol ether of Sorbitol containing an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>wherein CH₃(CH₂)_tC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from cocos nucifera (coconut) oil and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 2. The fatty acid distribution of coconut oil is 0-1% caproic, 5-9% caprylic, 6-10% capric, 44-52% lauric, 13-19% myristic, 0-1% palmitoleic, 1-3% stearic, 5-8% oleic, and trace-2.5% linoleic acid.⁵²</p>		
Sorbeth-2 beeswax	An ethoxylated sorbitan derivative of beeswax with an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>wherein CH₃(CH₂)_tC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from beeswax and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 2. The composition of beeswax is a variable mixture of glycerides and fatty acids containing 24 to 36 carbons in alkyl chain length (beeswax acid).¹⁹</p>		

Table 1. The Definitions and Functions of the Polysorbates in This Safety Assessment.⁴
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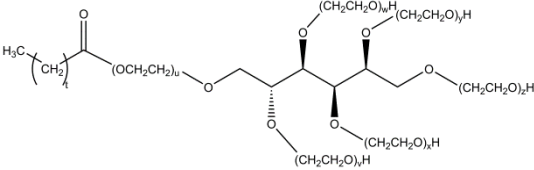
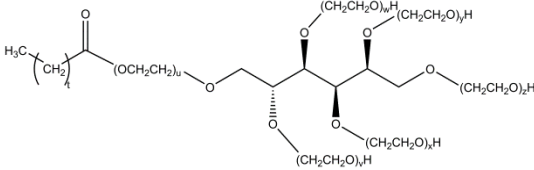
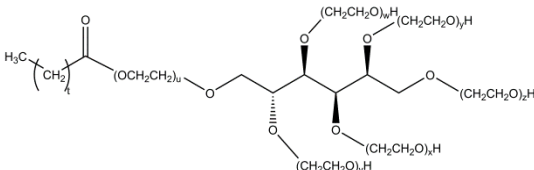
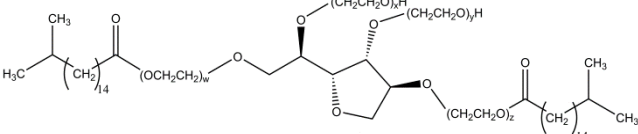
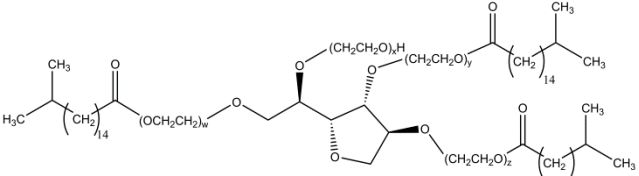
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-6 beeswax 8051-15-8	A an ethoxylated sorbitan derivative of beeswax with an average of 6 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="483 478 1198 569">wherein CH₃(CH₂)_uC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from beeswax and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 6. The composition of beeswax is a variable mixture of glycerides and fatty acids containing 24 to 36 carbons in alkyl chain length (beeswax acid).¹⁹</p>		
Sorbeth-8 beeswax	A an ethoxylated sorbitan derivative of beeswax with an average of 8 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="483 821 1198 911">wherein CH₃(CH₂)_uC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from beeswax and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 8. The composition of beeswax is a variable mixture of glycerides and fatty acids containing 24 to 36 carbons in alkyl chain length (beeswax acid).¹⁹</p>		
Sorbeth-20 beeswax	A an ethoxylated sorbitan derivative of beeswax with an average of 20 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p data-bbox="483 1157 1198 1247">wherein CH₃(CH₂)_uC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from beeswax and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 20. The composition of beeswax is a variable mixture of glycerides and fatty acids containing 24 to 36 carbons in alkyl chain length (beeswax acid).¹⁹</p>		
Polysorbate Diester Sorbitan Derivative		
PEG-40 sorbitan diisostearate	An ethoxylated sorbitan diester of isostearic acid with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p data-bbox="626 1539 1065 1591">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a diester) where w + x + y + z has an average value of 40.</p>		
Polysorbate Triesters Sorbitan Derivatives		
PEG-4 sorbitan triisostearate	The triester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 4 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="631 1927 1073 1976">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a triester) where w + x + y + z has an average value of 4.</p>		

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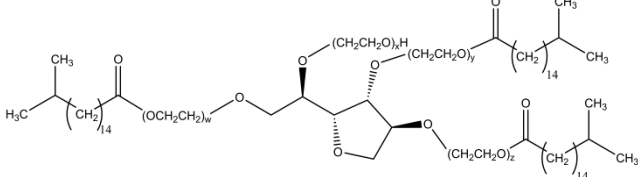
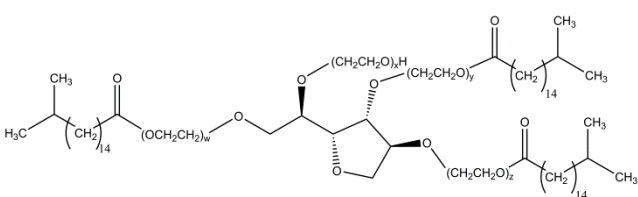
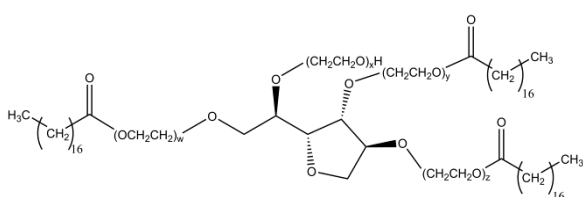
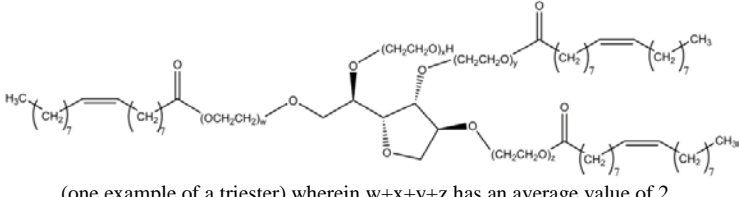
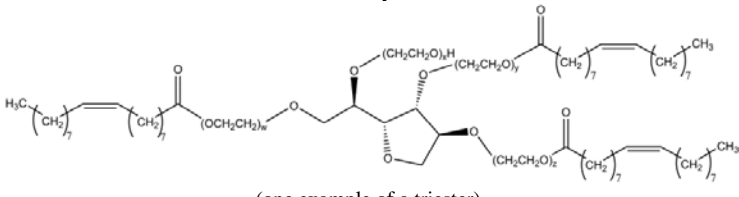
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
PEG-20 sorbitan triisostearate	The triester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 20 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a triester) where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		
PEG-160 sorbitan triisostearate	The triester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 160 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a triester) where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 160.</p>		
PEG-3 sorbitan tristearate	The triester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 3 moles of ethylene oxide.	Skin-conditioning agent-emollient
 <p>(one example of a triester) where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 3.</p>		
PEG-2 sorbitan trioleate	A triester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a triester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 2.</p>		
PEG-18 sorbitan trioleate	No longer listed as a cosmetic ingredient in the Dictionary.	1 use in VCRP ⁸
<p>A triester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 18 moles of ethylene oxide.</p>  <p>(one example of a triester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 18.</p>		

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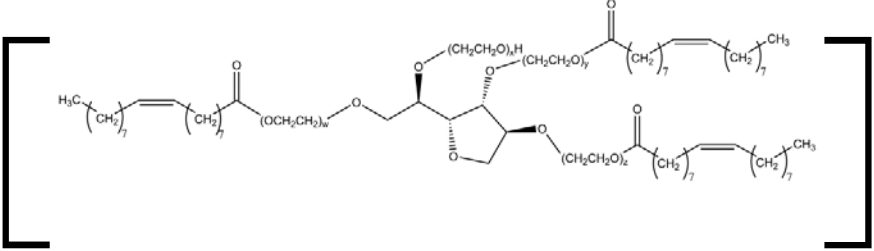
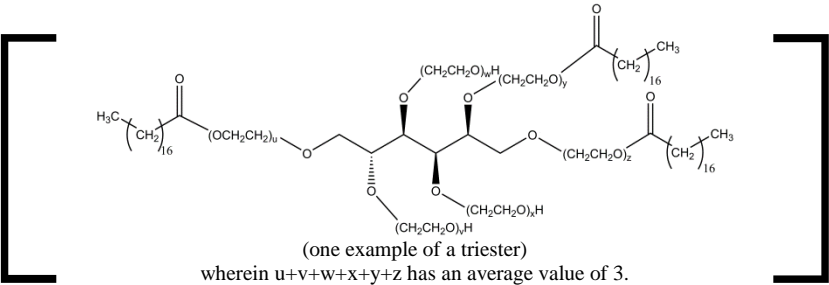
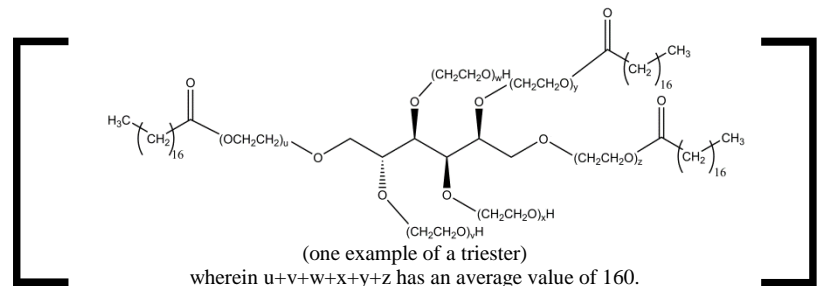
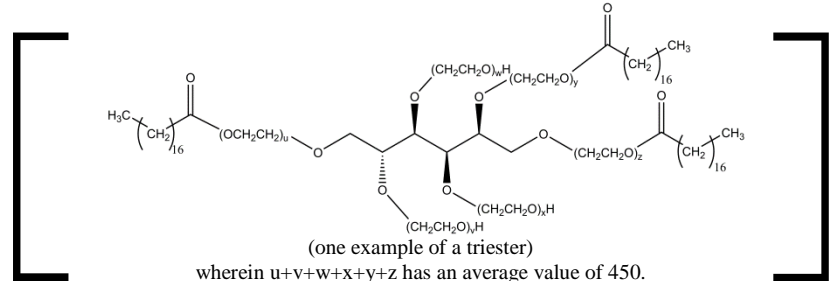
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Polysorbate 85 9005-70-3	A mixture of oleate esters of sorbitol and sorbitol anhydrides, consisting predominantly of the triester, condensed with approximately 20 moles of ethylene oxide. It conforms generally to the formula: <div data-bbox="402 289 1271 537" style="text-align: center;">  <p>The structure shows a sorbitol ring with three ester groups. The top ester is a stearic acid derivative with a long saturated chain. The middle ester is an oleic acid derivative with a long chain containing one double bond. The bottom ester is another oleic acid derivative. The sorbitol ring is substituted with polyethylene glycol chains of varying lengths, labeled with subscripts w, x, y, and z.</p> </div>	Surfactant-dispersing agent; surfactant-emulsifying agent
where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 20.		
Polysorbate Triesters Sorbitol Derivatives		
Sorbeth-3 tristearate	The triester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 3 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
<div data-bbox="423 716 1247 999" style="text-align: center;">  <p>The structure shows a sorbitol ring with three stearic acid ester groups. The sorbitol ring is substituted with polyethylene glycol chains of varying lengths, labeled with subscripts u, v, w, x, y, and z.</p> <p>(one example of a triester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 3.</p> </div>		
Sorbeth-160 tristearate	The triester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 160 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-cleansing agent; surfactant-solubilizing agent
<div data-bbox="423 1066 1247 1350" style="text-align: center;">  <p>The structure shows a sorbitol ring with three stearic acid ester groups. The sorbitol ring is substituted with polyethylene glycol chains of varying lengths, labeled with subscripts u, v, w, x, y, and z.</p> <p>(one example of a triester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 160.</p> </div>		
Sorbeth-450 tristearate	The triester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 450 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-dispersing agent; surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant-foam booster; viscosity increasing agent – aqueous
<div data-bbox="423 1440 1247 1724" style="text-align: center;">  <p>The structure shows a sorbitol ring with three stearic acid ester groups. The sorbitol ring is substituted with polyethylene glycol chains of varying lengths, labeled with subscripts u, v, w, x, y, and z.</p> <p>(one example of a triester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 450.</p> </div>		

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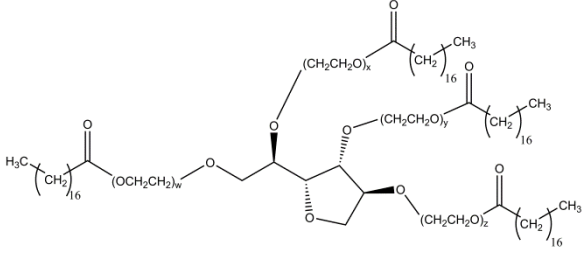
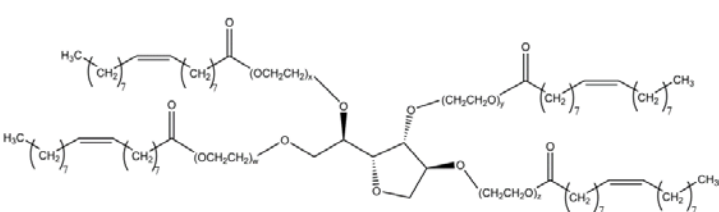
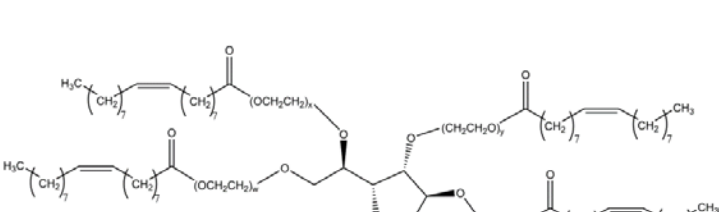
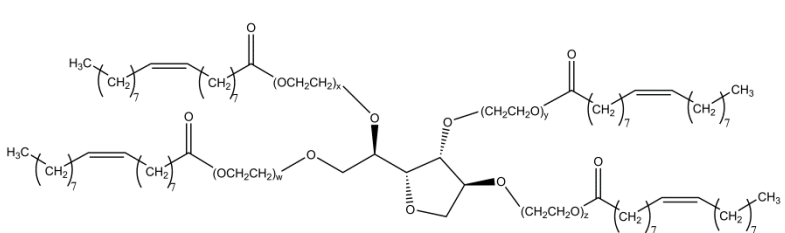
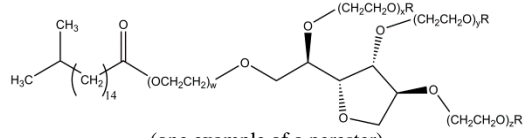
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
<i>Polysorbate Tetraesters</i> <i>Sorbitan Derivatives</i>		
PEG-60 sorbitan tetrastearate	The tetraester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol, with an average of 60 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a tetraester) where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 60.</p>		
PEG-30 sorbitan tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol, with an average of 30 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 30.</p>		
PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol, with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		
PEG-60 sorbitan tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol, with an average of 60 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>[where $w + x + y + z$ has an average value of 60.]</p>		
<i>Polysorbate Esters - mixtures</i> <i>Sorbitan Derivatives</i>		
PEG-40 sorbitan perisostearate	A mixture of isostearic acid esters of sorbitol condensed with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a perester) wherein each R is hydrogen or isostearate, and $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		

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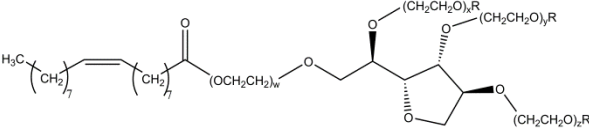
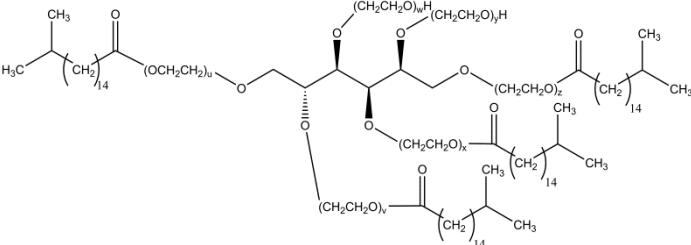
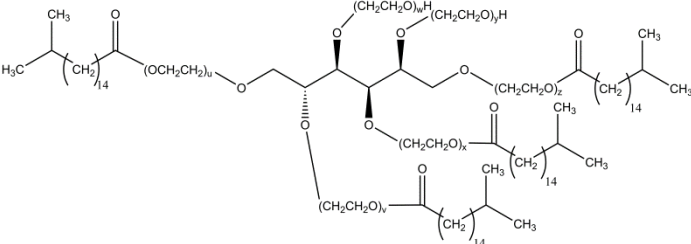
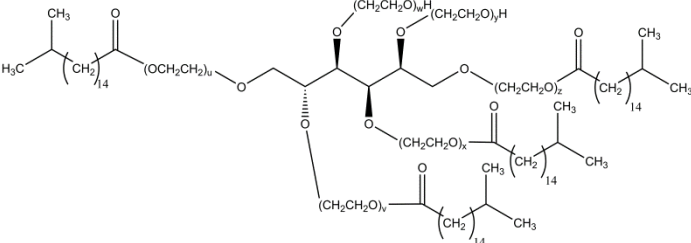
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
PEG-40 sorbitan peroleate	A mixture of oleic acid esters of sorbitol condensed with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent; surfactant solubilizing agent
 <p data-bbox="724 417 959 441">(one example of a perester)</p> <p data-bbox="516 443 1166 485">wherein each R is hydrogen or oleate, and $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		
Polysorbate Tetraesters		
Sorbitol Derivatives		
Sorbeth-20 tetraisostearate	The tetraester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 20 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="610 873 1068 894">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a tetraester)</p> <p data-bbox="618 896 1060 917">wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		
Sorbeth-30 tetraisostearate	The tetraester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 30 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="610 1236 1068 1257">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a tetraester)</p> <p data-bbox="618 1260 1060 1281">wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 30.</p>		
Sorbeth-40 tetraisostearate	The tetraester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="610 1600 1068 1621">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a tetraester)</p> <p data-bbox="618 1623 1060 1644">wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		

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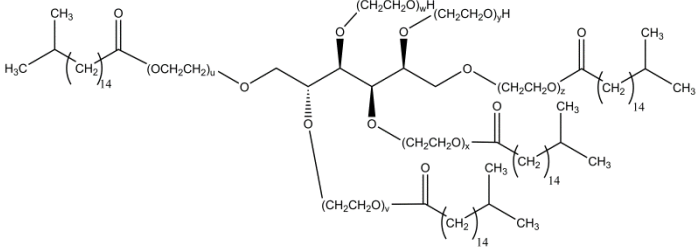
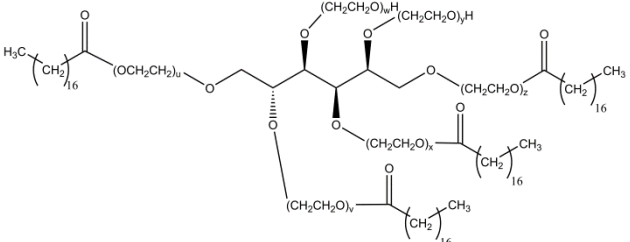
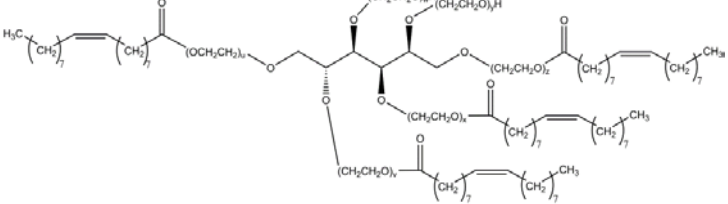
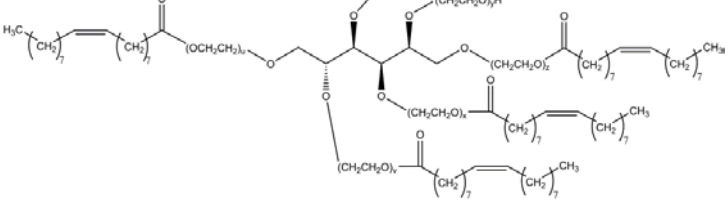
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-50 tetraistearate	The tetraester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 50 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="610 548 1068 590">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a tetraester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 50.</p>		
Sorbeth-60 tetrastearate	The tetraester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 60 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="610 905 1068 953">(one example of an "iso"; one example of a tetraester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 60.</p>		
Sorbeth-4 tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 4 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="716 1274 963 1318">(one example of a tetraester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 4.</p>		
Sorbeth-6 tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 6 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p data-bbox="716 1640 963 1684">(one example of a tetraester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 6.</p>		

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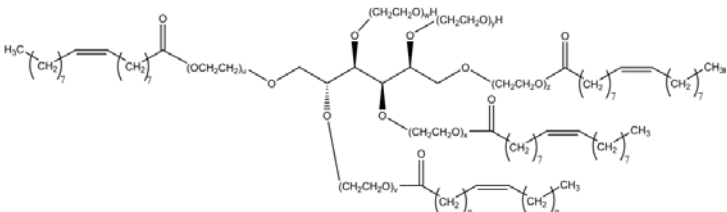
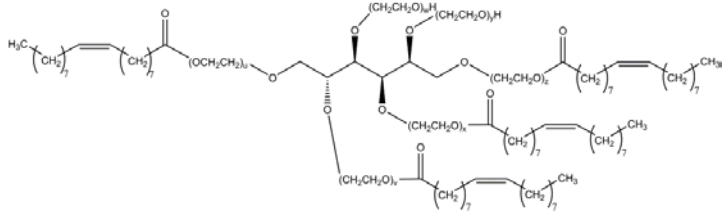
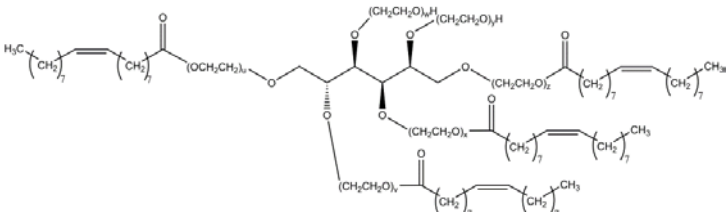
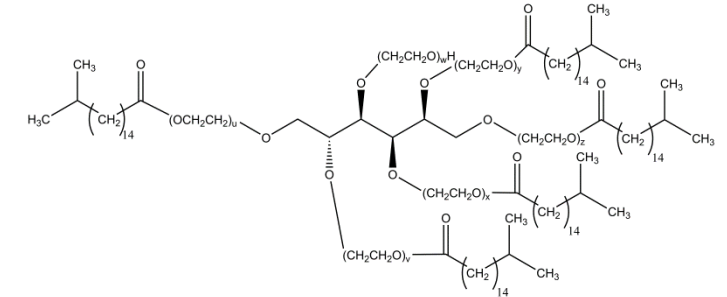
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 30 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a tetraester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 30.</p>		
Sorbeth-40 tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a tetraester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		
Sorbeth-60 tetraoleate	The tetraester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol with an average of 60 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a tetraester) wherein $w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 60.</p>		
<p>Polysorbate Pentaesters Sorbitol Derivatives</p>		
Sorbeth-20 pentaisostearate	The pentaester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 20 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 20.</p>		

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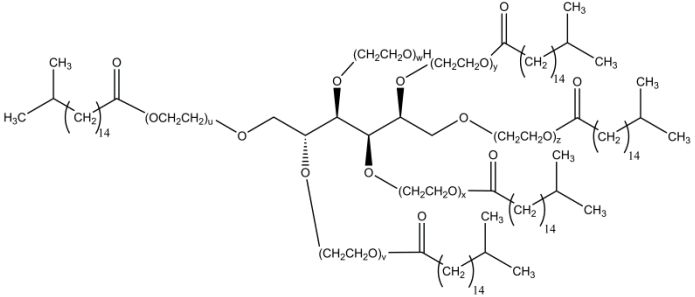
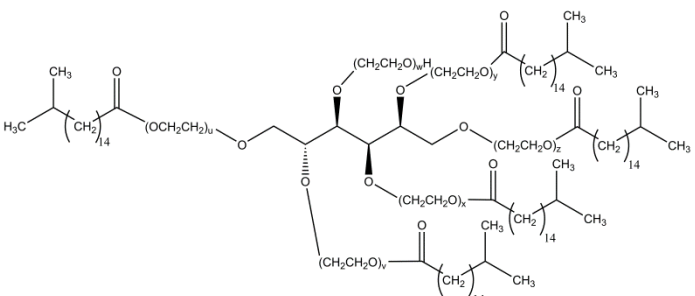
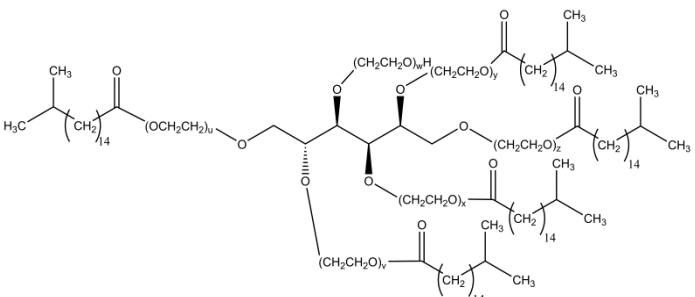
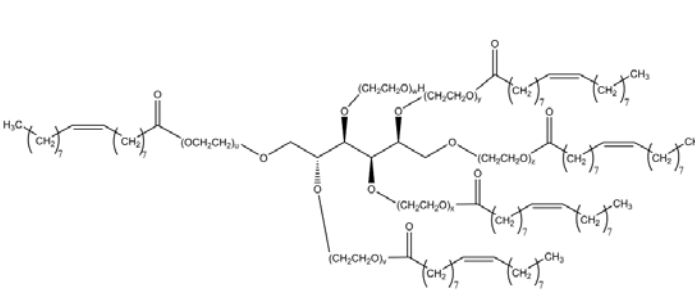
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-30 pentaistearate	The pentaester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 30 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 30.</p>		
Sorbeth-40 pentaistearate	The pentaester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		
Sorbeth-50 pentaistearate	The pentaester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 50 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 50.</p>		
Sorbeth-40 pentaoleate	The pentaester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 40 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		

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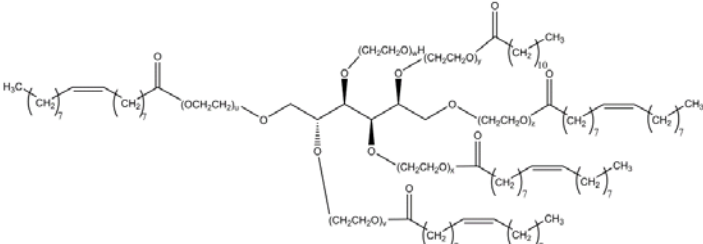
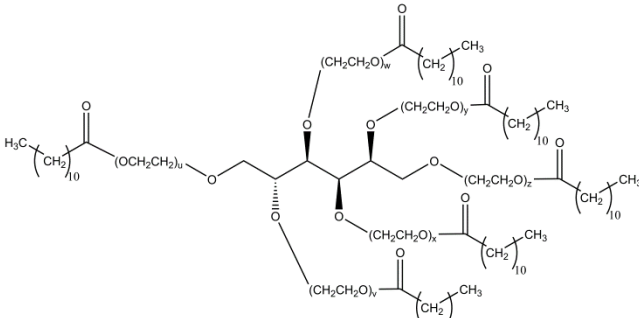
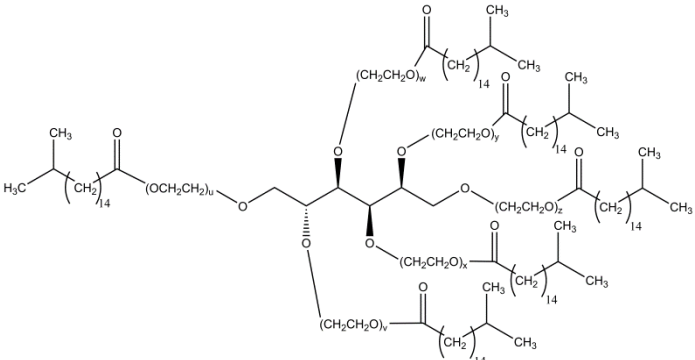
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate laurate	The oleic acid tetraester and lauric acid ester of sorbitol ethoxylated with an average of 30 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
 <p>(one example of an "iso"; one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 30.</p>		
Polysorbate Hexaesters Sorbitol Derivatives		
Sorbeth-2 hexalaurate	The hexaester of lauric acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Skin-conditioning agent-emollient
 <p>(one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 2.</p>		
Sorbeth-2 hexaisostearate	The hexaester of isostearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Skin-conditioning agent-emollient
 <p>(one example of a pentaester) wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 2.</p>		

Table 1. The Definitions and Functions of the Polysorbates in This Safety Assessment.⁴
 [Bracketed entries are the work product of CIR staff]

Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-6 hexastearate	The hexaester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 6 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 6.		
Sorbeth-150 hexastearate	The hexaester of stearic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 150 moles of ethylene oxide.	Viscosity increasing agent-aqueous
wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 150.		
Sorbeth-2 hexaoleate	The hexaester of oleic acid and a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Skin-conditioning agent-emollient
wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 2.		

Table 1. The Definitions and Functions of the Polysorbates in This Safety Assessment.⁴
 [Bracketed entries are the work product of CIR staff]

Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-40 hexaoleate	The hexaester of oleic acid and sorbeth-40.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
<p style="text-align: center;">wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 40.</p>		
Sorbeth-50 hexaoleate	The hexaester of oleic acid with a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 50 moles of ethylene oxide.	Surfactant-emulsifying agent
<p style="text-align: center;">wherein $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 50.</p>		
Sorbeth-2 hexacaprylate/caprates	The hexaester of a mixture of caprylic and capric acids with a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 2 moles of ethylene oxide.	Skin-conditioning agent-emollient
<p style="text-align: center;">wherein n is in each case 6 or 8, and $u+v+w+x+y+z$ has an average value of 2.</p>		

Table 1. The Definitions and Functions of the Polysorbates in This Safety Assessment.⁴
[Bracketed entries are the work product of CIR staff]

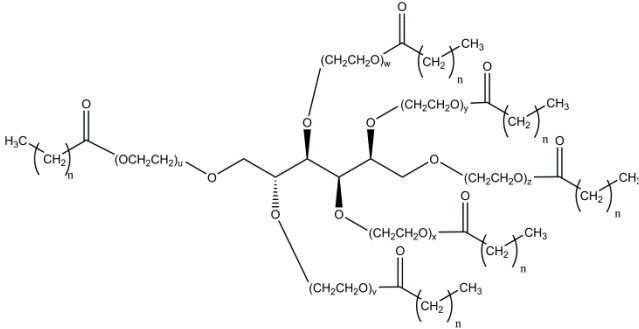
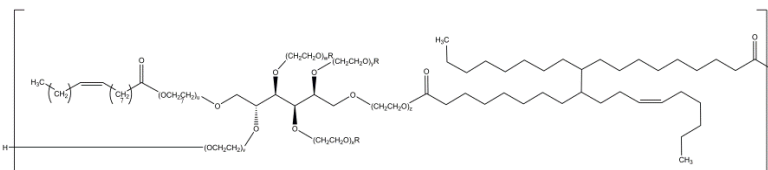
Ingredient and CAS No.	Definition	Function
Sorbeth-12 hexacoate	The hexaester of coconut acid with a polyethylene glycol ether of sorbitol containing an average of 12 moles of ethylene oxide.	Skin-conditioning agent-emollient
 <p data-bbox="511 619 1185 745">wherein CH₃(CH₂)_nC(O)- represents the fatty acids derived from cocos nucifera (coconut) oil and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 12. The fatty acid distribution of coconut oil is 0-1% caproic, 5-9% caprylic, 6-10% capric, 44-52% lauric, 13-19% myristic, 0-1% palmitoleic, 1-3% stearic, 5-8% oleic, and trace-2.5% linoleic acid.⁵²</p>		
Other		
Sorbeth-2/oleate/dimer dilinoleate crosspolymer	The crosslinked polymer of a 2-mole ethoxylate of sorbitol, oleic acid, and dilinoleic acid.	Skin-conditioning agent – emollient
 <p data-bbox="479 997 1218 1050">wherein R is hydrogen, oleate, or dimer dilinoleate, and u+v+w+x+y+z has an average value of 12.</p>		

Table 2. Previous safety assessment of polysorbates and component moieties of the ingredients in this safety assessment.

Ingredients	Conclusion	Maximum concentration in report	Reference
Previous safety assessment of polysorbates			
Polysorbates – polysorbate 20, 21, 40, 60, 61, 65, 80, 81, 85	Safe as used.	>50%	1
Polysorbates – above plus PEG-20 sorbitan cocoate, PEG-40 sorbitan diisostearate, PEG-2 sorbitan isostearate, PEG-5 sorbitan isostearate, PEG-20 sorbitan isostearate, PEG-40 sorbitan lanolate, PEG-75 sorbitan lanolate, PEG-10 sorbitan laurate, PEG-40 sorbitan laurate, PEG-44 sorbitan laurate, PEG-75 sorbitan laurate, PEG-80 sorbitan laurate, PEG-3 sorbitan oleate, PEG-6 sorbitan oleate, PEG-80 sorbitan palmitate, PEG-40 sorbitan perisostearate, PEG-40 sorbitan peroleate, PEG-3 sorbitan stearate, PEG-6 sorbitan stearate, PEG-40 sorbitan stearate, PEG-60 sorbitan stearate, PEG-30 sorbitan tetraoleate, PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate, PEG-60 sorbitan tetraoleate, PEG-60 sorbitan tetrastearate, PEG-20 sorbitan triisostearate, PEG-160 sorbitan triisostearate, PEG-40 sorbitol hexaoate (currently sorbeth-40 hexaoate), PEG-50 sorbitol hexaoate (currently sorbeth-50 hexaoate), PEG-30 sorbitol tetraoleate laurate (currently sorbeth-30 tetraoleate laurate), PEG-60 sorbitol tetrastearate (currently sorbeth-60 tetrastearate)	Safe as used.	10%	2
Sorbeth-6 beeswax, Sorbeth-8 beeswax, Sorbeth-20 beeswax	Safe for use as cosmetic ingredients under the present practices of use. The Expert Panel recommends that cosmetic formulations containing PEG-6, PEG-20, or PEG-75 not be used on damaged skin.*	11%	6

Table 2. Previous safety assessment of polysorbates and component moieties of the ingredients in this safety assessment.

Ingredients	Conclusion	Maximum concentration in report	Reference
Safety assessments of components			
Beeswax, candelilla wax, carnauba wax, and Japan wax	Safe as used.	56%	9,15
Coconut oil, acid and related ingredients	Safe as used	100%	9,11,12,53
Isostearic acid	Safe as used.	26%	9,14
Lanolin acid	Safe as used	65%	9,13
Oleic acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, stearic acid	Safe in the present practices of use and concentration.	> 50%; 43%	10,17
Polyethylene glycols (PEG) - triethylene glycol and polyethylene (PEGs) -4, -6, -7, -8, -9, -10, -12, -14, -16, -18, -20, -32, -33, -40, -45, -55, -60, -75, -80, -90, -100, -135, -150, -180, -200, -220, -240, -350, -400, -450, -500, -800, -2M, -5M, -7M, -9M, -14M, -20M, -23M, -25M, -45M, -65M, -90M, -115M, -160M, and -180M and any PEG >= 4	Safe in the present practices of use and concentration.	85%	7,18
Sorbitan esters - sorbitan caprylate, sorbitan cocoate, sorbitan diisostearate, sorbitan dioleate, sorbitan distearate, sorbitan isostearate, sorbitan laurate, sorbitan oleate, sorbitan olivate, sorbitan palmitate, sorbitan sesquiosotearate, sorbitan stearate, sorbitan sesquioleate, sorbitan triisostearate, sorbitan trioleate, and sorbitan tristearate	Safe as used.	9.1%	20-22
Stearates - butyl stearate, cetyl stearate, isobutyl stearate, isocetyl stearate, isopropyl stearate, myristyl stearate, and octyl stearate	Safe as used.	87%	9,16
Alkyl Esters	Safe as used	78%	19

* In 2010, the Panel concluded that PEGs were safe as used and removed the caveat that PEGs should not be used on damaged skin.⁷

Table 3. Chemical and physical properties of some polysorbates.

Property	Value	Reference
Polysorbate 21		
Physical Form	Liquid/Oily liquid	23
Molecular Weight g/mol	390.5	23
Water Solubility	Dispersible	54
Other Solubility		
Ethanol	Soluble	54
Corn oil	Soluble	54
Sorbeth-6 laurate PEG-10 sorbitan laurate		
Physical Form	Liquid	54
Color	Clear yellow	54
Odor	Mild	54
Water Solubility g/L @ °C & pH	Soluble	54
Other Solubility		
Acetone	Soluble	54
Ethyl acetate	Soluble	54
Mineral oil	Insoluble	54
Polysorbate 20		
Physical Form	Liquid	23,55
Color	Lemon-amber	23,55
Odor	Characteristic	23,55
Molecular Weight g/mol	~1228	55
Molecular Volume m ³ /kmol		
Density/Specific Gravity @ 25°C	1.095	23,55
Water Solubility	Soluble	54,55
Other Solubility		
Ethanol	Soluble	54,55
Ethyl acetate	Soluble	54,55
Polysorbate 40		
Physical Form	Oily liquid or Vaseline-like	56-59
Odor	Characteristic	2,54
Density/Specific Gravity @ °C	1.05	59
Water Solubility	Soluble	54
Other Solubility		
Methanol	Soluble	54
Ethanol	Soluble	54
Mineral oil	Insoluble	54

Table 3. Chemical and physical properties of some polysorbates.

Property	Value	Reference
Polysorbate 61		
Physical Form	Waxy solid	54,56,60
Color	Tan	54
Water Solubility	Dispersable	61
Other Solubility		
Ethylene glycol	Insoluble	61
Propylene glycol	Insoluble	61
Polysorbate 60		
Physical Form	Oily liquid	56
	Semigel	62
	Wax	63
Color	Lemon yellow	54
Polysorbate 65		
Physical Form	Waxy solid	56,57
Color	Tan	54
Odor	Faint, characteristic	54
Water Solubility	Dispersible	54
Other Solubility		
Ethanol	Soluble	54
Methanol	Soluble	54
Vegetable and mineral oil	Soluble	54
Polysorbate 81		
Physical Form	Liquid	24
	May gel at room temperature	57
Color	Clear	24
Odor	Faint	54
Density/Specific Gravity @ 20°C	1.0356	24
@ 25°C	1.032	24
@ 20°C	10299	24
@ 25°C	1.0264	24
Viscosity kg/(s m) @ 20°C	0.672	24
	0.84	24
@ 25°C	0.328	24
Discuss different Samples	0.383	24
Vapor pressure mmHg@ °C	0.002	24
Vapor Density mmHg		
Melting Point °C	-33.9	24
	-32.7	24
Boiling Point °C		
Water Solubility g/L	~0.100	24
	~0.035	24
@ 20°C & pH 8.29-9.39	>0.500	24
Other Solubility		
Ether	Dispersible	54
Ethylene glycol	Dispersible	54
Ethanol	Soluble	54
PEG-20 sorbitan oleate		
Density/Specific Gravity @ °C	1.1/1.064	2
Other Solubility		
Dimethyl sulfoxide	Soluble	54
Ethanol	Soluble	54
Mineral oil	Soluble	54
Toluene	Soluble	54
Polysorbate 80		
Physical Form	Viscous, oily liquid	56,58,59,62-65
Color	Lemon to orange/amber	54,66
Odor	Characteristic	54
Density/Specific Gravity @ °C	1.08	64
	1.06-1.10	65,66
	1.07-1.09	59
Viscosity kg/(s m)@ °C	0.3-0.5	66
Water Solubility	Soluble	54
PEG-40 sorbitan lanolate		
Physical Form	Soft paste	61
Water Solubility @ 65°C	Soluble	61
Other Solubility @ 65°C		
Dioxane	Soluble	61
Carbon tetrachloride	Soluble	61

Table 3. Chemical and physical properties of some polysorbates.

Property	Value	Reference
Sorbeth-6 beeswax		
Physical Form	Waxy solid	67
Color	Tan	67
Odor	Fatty	67
Water Solubility	Insoluble	67
Other Solubility		
Corn oil	Soluble	67
Ethylene glycol	Insoluble	67
Mineral oil	Insoluble	67
Sorbeth-20 beeswax		
Physical Form	Waxy solid	67
Color	Tan	67
Odor	Mild, fatty	67
Water Solubility g/L @ °C & pH	Insoluble	67
Other Solubility		67
Warm corn oil	Soluble	
Mineral oil	Dispersible	
Polysorbate 85		
Physical Form	Liquid	56,58
	May gel at room temperature	54,57
Color	Clear amber	54
Odor	Characteristic	54
Water Solubility	Dispersible	54
Other Solubility		54
Vegetable and mineral oils	Soluble	
PEG-40 sorbitan peroleate		
Physical Form	Viscous, oily liquid	61
Color	Clear yellow	61
Odor	Faint characteristic	61
Water Solubility	Dispersible	61
Other Solubility		61
Mineral oil	Soluble	

Table 4. Chemical and physical properties of generic Sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated ingredients.

Property	Value	Reference
Sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated		
Physical Form	Liquid	23
Water Solubility g/L @ 20 °C & pH 6.3 and 7.9	<2.0	23
Sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated		
Physical Form	Solid (wax)	25
Color	Colorless	25
Odor	Odorless	25
Density/Specific Gravity @ 23°C	1.007	25
@ 25°C	1.07	25
Vapor pressure mmHg @ 20°C	<0. 0.75	25
@ 20°C	<0.1	25
Melting Point °C	45-50	25
	39.6	25
Boiling Point °C	90.4	25
Water Solubility g/L @ 23°C	0.300	25
Other Solubility g/L		
Petroleum ether @ 23°C	1.800	25
Methanol @ 23°C	0.200	25
log K _{ow} @ 23 °C & pH 6.4	0.03	25
Disassociation constants (pKa @ 23°C	0.199 x 10 ⁻⁹	25

Table 5. The approximate ester content of some polysorbates.^{23,27}

Ingredient	Laurate (%)	Myristate (%)	Palmitate (%)	Stearate (%)	Oleate (%)	Other esters (%)
Polysorbate 20	39±2	26±1	12±1	12±2	ND	11±2
Polysorbate 21	40-60	14-25	6-15	0-7	0-11	0-24
Polysorbate 40	<1	2	87±2	10±1	ND	<1
Polysorbate 60	2±1	4±1	43±1	51±2	ND	<1
Polysorbate 80	<1	2	22±2	11±2	66±1	<1

ND=none detected

Table 6. Current and historical frequency and concentration of use of polysorbates according to duration and exposure.^{1,2,6,8,15,31}

	# of Uses		Max Conc of Use (%)		# of Uses		Max Conc of Use (%)	
	2015	1998**	2014	1981***	2015	1998	2014	1981
	Polysorbate 20				Polysorbate 21			
Totals*	3013	770	0.00001-19.6	0.09->50	55	4	0.33-8	0.1-1
Duration of Use								
Leave-On	1639	446	0.00001-9.1	0.09->50	17	4	0.33-2	0.1-1
Rinse-Off	1275	297	0.0006-19.6	0.09-25	38	NR	0.5-8	NR
Diluted for (Bath) Use	99	27	0.0097-8.9	0.1-50	NR	NR	NR	NR
Exposure Type								
Eye Area	226	39	0.00015-3.5	0.1-10	4	NR	0.5	NR
Incidental Ingestion	32	12	0.01-5.8	0.09-5	NR	NR	NR	NR
Incidental Inhalation-Spray	35; 546 ^a ; 397 ^c	22; 169 ^a ; 50 ^c	0.00001-3 ^d ; 0.0019-3 ^a ; 0.76-2 ^c	0.09-1; <0.1->50 ^a ; 0.09-5 ^c	6 ^a	4 ^a	0.33 ^e	0.1-1 ^a
Incidental Inhalation-Powder	52; 5 ^b ; 397 ^c	43; 50 ^c	0.00075-3; 0.0006-9.1 ^b ; 0.76-2 ^c	0.1-1; 0.09-5 ^c	NR	NR	0.38 ^b	NR
Dermal Contact	2299	493	0.00001-19.6	0.09-5	14	4	0.38-2	NR
Deodorant (underarm)	9 ^a	3 ^a	0.00018-4 ^e ; 0.00082-3 ^f	0.1-5 ^a	NR	NR	NR	NR
Hair - Non-Coloring	555	205	0.006-12.6	0.09-25	14	NR	0.33-8	NR
Hair-Coloring	92	50	0.4-3.8	0.09-5	24	NR	2.4	NR
Nail	11	6	0.000041-3.3	0.09-5	NR	NR	NR	NR
Mucous Membrane	822	66	0.0006-19.6	0.09->50	3	NR	NR	NR
Baby Products	32	3	0.00078-12.6	0.1-25	NR	NR	NR	NR
	2015	1998	2014	1981	2014	1998	2014	1981
	Polysorbate 40				Polysorbate 60			
Totals*	80	32	0.008-5	0.09-10	1589	332	0.0000001-6	0.09-25
Duration of Use								
Leave-On	65	24	0.008-5	0.09-10	1228	255	0.00009-4	0.09-25
Rinse-Off	15	8	1.5-3	0.09-5	358	77	0.0000001-6	0.09-5
Diluted for (Bath) Use	NR	NR	NR	NR	3	NR	0.0015-0.06	0.1-10
Exposure Type								
Eye Area	12	1	0.015-3.75	1-5	75	35	0.0021-3.8	0.09-10
Incidental Ingestion	1	NR	NR	NR	13	NR	0.2-0.4	0.09-5
Incidental Inhalation-Spray	24 ^a ; 21 ^c	13 ^a ; 3 ^c	0.5-2.5 ^a	0.1-10 ^a ; 0.1-5 ^c	2; 635 ^a ; 338 ^c	93 ^a ; 59 ^c	0.0025-0.8 ^b ; 0.0005-4 ^a ; 2.4 ^c	0.1-10 ^a
Incidental Inhalation-Powder	21 ^c	3 ^c	0.019-5 ^b	0.1-5 ^c	7; 10 ^b ; 338 ^c	59 ^c	0.053; 0.018-3.7 ^b ; 2.4 ^c	0.09-5
Dermal Contact	76	29	0.008-5	0.09-10	1302	297	0.00009-6	0.09-10
Deodorant (underarm)	NR	NR	NR	NR	1 ^a	NR	0.02 ^f	NR
Hair - Non-Coloring	1	2	0.8-2.5	0.09-5	156	22	0.0000001-5	0.1-25
Hair-Coloring	NR	NR	NR	NR	107	1	0.002-2.5	1-5
Nail	NR	1	NR	0.1-5	2	5	3.5	0.1-5
Mucous Membrane	4	NR	3	NR	52	NR	0.0008-2	0.09-10
Baby Products	NR	NR	NR	NR	11	3	0.00009-1.5	NR

Table 6. Current and historical frequency and concentration of use of polysorbates according to duration and exposure.^{1,2,6,8,15,31}

	# of Uses		Max Conc of Use (%)		# of Uses		Max Conc of Use (%)	
	2015	1998	2014	1998	2015	1998	2014	1998
	PEG-40 sorbitan stearate				PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate			
Totals*	1	1	NR	NR	1	1	NR	NR
Duration of Use								
<i>Leave-On</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>
<i>Rinse-Off</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>
<i>Diluted for (Bath) Use</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>
Exposure Type								
Eye Area	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Incidental Ingestion	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Incidental Inhalation-Spray	NR	NR	NR	NR	1 ^c	1 ^c	NR	NR
Incidental Inhalation-Powder	1 ^a	NR	NR	NR	1 ^c	1 ^c	NR	NR
Dermal Contact	1	1	NR	NR	1	1	NR	NR
Deodorant (underarm)	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Hair - Non-Coloring	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Hair-Coloring	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Nail	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Mucous Membrane	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Baby Products	1	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
	2015	1998	2014	1999				
	Sorbeth-20 beeswax							
Totals*	9	16	0.5-2.8	0.5-2.8				
Duration of Use								
<i>Leave-On</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.5-2.8</i>	<i>NR</i>				
<i>Rinse-Off</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>				
<i>Diluted for (Bath) Use</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>	<i>NR</i>				
Exposure Type								
Eye Area	7	11	2.8	2.8				
Incidental Ingestion	1	4	2.5	2.5				
Incidental Inhalation-Spray	NR	NR	NR	NR				
Incidental Inhalation-Powder	NR	NR	0.5-1 ^b	NR				
Dermal Contact	1	4	0.5-1	0.5-1				
Deodorant (underarm)	NR	NR	NR	NR				
Hair - Non-Coloring	NR	NR	NR	NR				
Hair-Coloring	NR	NR	NR	NR				
Nail	NR	NR	NR	NR				
Mucous Membrane	1	4	2.5	2.5				
Baby Products	NR	NR	NR	NR				

NR – no reported use

* Because each ingredient may be used in cosmetics with multiple exposure types, the sum of all exposure types may not equal the sum of total uses.

** The year that the Council survey was conducted in the previous report. In the report published in 2000, the only concentration of use data that were provided was the following: "...PEG-60 sorbitan tetraoleate, PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate, and PEG-160 sorbitan Triisostearate are used in cosmetics at concentrations of 0.5% to 10%..." in 1998. Since the data from the 2000 report is limited, the concentration of use data from the 1984 report are provided here to give a better historical perspective.

*** At the time of the 1984 safety assessment, concentration of use data were not reported by the FDA; 1981 data were presented. These data were presented in ranges so the limits of the ranges are represented here.

^a It is possible these products are sprays, but it is not specified whether the reported uses are sprays.

^b It is possible these products are powders, but it is not specified whether the reported uses are powders.

^c Not specified whether a spray or a powder, but it is possible the use can be as a spray or a powder, therefore the information is captured in both categories.

^d Aerosol hair spray 0.027%-3%; pump hair spray 0.4%-1%; spray body and hand products 0.00001%-1.2%; spray moisturizing products 0.1%.

^e Spray deodorants.

^f Not spray deodorants.

^g Aerosol hair spray.

^h Spray body and hand products 0.083%-0.8%.

ⁱ Aerosol hair spray 0.078%-1.6%; pump hair spray 0.02%-0.2%; spray face and neck products 0.39%.

Table 7. Frequency of use according to duration and exposure of polysorbates that are reviewed for the first time in this safety assessment.^{5,31}

Use type	Maximum Concentration		Maximum Concentration		Maximum Concentration		Maximum Concentration	
	Uses	(%)	Uses	(%)	Uses	(%)	Uses	(%)
	Sorbeth-6 tetraoleate		Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate		Sorbeth-40 tetraoleate		Sorbeth-60 tetraoleate	
Total/range	NR	0.21	10	0.11-10.8	2	0.5	1	NR
<i>Duration of use</i>								
Leave-on	NR	0.21	4	NR	1	0.5	1	NR
Rinse-off	NR	NR	6	0.11-10.8	1	NR	NR	NR
Diluted for (bath) use	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
<i>Exposure type</i>								
Eye area	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Incidental ingestion	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Incidental Inhalation-sprays	NR	NR	NR	NR	1 ^b	NR	1 ^a	NR
Incidental inhalation-powders	NR	0.21	NR	NR	1 ^b	0.5 ^c	NR	NR
Dermal contact	NR	0.21	10	0.11-10.8	2	0.5	1	NR
Deodorant (underarm)	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Hair-noncoloring	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Hair-coloring	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Nail	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Mucous Membrane	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Baby	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

NR = Not Reported; NS = Not Surveyed; Totals = Rinse-off + Leave-on Product Uses.

Note: Because each ingredient may be used in cosmetics with multiple exposure types, the sum of all exposure type uses may not equal the sum total uses.

^a Because each ingredient may be used in cosmetics with multiple exposure types, the sum of all exposure types may not equal the sum of total uses.

^b It is possible these products may be sprays, but it is not specified whether the reported uses are sprays.

^b Not specified whether a powder or a spray, so this information is captured for both categories of incidental inhalation.

^c It is possible these products may be powders, but it is not specified whether the reported uses are powders.

Table 8. Ingredients for which there were no reported current or historic uses from the VCRP or the Council.^{8,31}

PEG-2 sorbitan isostearate	Sorbeth-2 hexaoleate
PEG-5 sorbitan isostearate	Sorbeth-40 hexaoleate
PEG-75 sorbitan lanolate	Sorbeth-50 hexaoleate
PEG-20 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-6 hexastearate
PEG-40 sorbitan oleate	Sorbeth-150 hexastearate
PEG-80 sorbitan palmitate	Sorbeth-3 isostearate
PEG-40 sorbitan perisostearate	Sorbeth-6 laurate
PEG-4 sorbitan stearate*	Sorbeth-2/oleate/dimer dilinoleate crosspolymer
PEG-60 sorbitan stearate	Sorbeth-20 pentaisostearate
PEG-60 sorbitan tetrastearate	Sorbeth-30 pentaisostearate
PEG-4 sorbitan triisostearate	Sorbeth-40 pentaisostearate
PEG-20 sorbitan triisostearate	Sorbeth-50 pentaisostearate
PEG-2 sorbitan trioleate	Sorbeth-40 pentaoleate
PEG-3 sorbitan tristearate	Sorbeth-20 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-2 beeswax	Sorbeth-40 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-8 beeswax	Sorbeth-50 tetraisostearate
Sorbeth-2 cocoate	Sorbeth-30 tetraoleate laurate
Sorbeth-2 hexacaprylate/caprates	Sorbeth-60 tetrastearate
Sorbeth-12 hexacocoate	Sorbeth-3 tristearate
Sorbeth-2 hexaisostearate	Sorbeth-160 tristearate
Sorbeth-2 hexalaurate	Sorbeth-450 tristearate

* The Council has not completed the survey for concentration of use data.

Table 9. Regulations controlling the use of polysorbates.

Ingredient	Regulation	Citation
Polysorbate 20, 60, 65, and 80	Approved as diluents in color additives for drug use.	21CFR73.1; 21CFR73.1001
Polysorbates 20, 60, and 80	Approved for direct use in all food types as synthetic flavorings.	21CFR172.623
Polysorbate 80	Approved to be used with carrageenan to make chewing gum bases and related substances.	21CFR172.623
Polysorbate 60, 65, and 80	Approved as multipurpose additives.	21CFR172.836; 21CFR172.838; 21CFR172.840]
Polysorbate 20	Permitted as a secondary direct food additive for human consumption.	21CFR173.310
Polysorbate 60, 65, and 80	Approved as defoaming agents in food for human consumption.	21CFR173.340
Polysorbate 20, 40, 60, and 80; PEG-3 sorbitan stearate; and PEG-3 sorbitan oleate	Approved for indirect addition to all food types as components of adhesives.	21 CFR 175.105
PEG-40 sorbitan laurate, PEG-6 sorbitan stearate, PEG-40 sorbitan stearate, PEG-6 sorbitan oleate, PEG-40 sorbitan tetraoleate, and PEG-40 sorbitan peroleate	May be used as indirect food additives as a defoaming agent in the manufacture of paper and paperboard.	12CFR176.210
Polysorbate 20, 40, 60, 65, 80, and 85, and PEG-3 sorbitan oleate	Approved for indirect addition to all food types as emulsifiers and/or surfactants.	21 CFR 178.3400
PEG-3 sorbitan oleate	May be used as a component of paper and paperboard in contact with dry food.	21CFR180
Polysorbate 80	Approved as an ophthalmic demulcent.	21CFR349.12
Polysorbate 60 and 80	Approved for use in animal feed and drinking water.	21CFR573.840; 21CFR573.860
Polysorbate 80	May be used to denature spirits.	27CFR21.68; 27CFR21.151

Table 10. Penetration enhancement studies of some polysorbates.³⁸

Ingredient	Chemical/drug tested	Results; notes
Polysorbate 20 (5%)	Albuterol sulfate	ER compared to control (saline buffer)=3.43±0.52; ER compared to vehicle (ethanol)=1.26±0.32. Thawed, hairless rat skin pretreated with test substance using Franz cells.
Polysorbate 65 (5%)	Albuterol sulfate	ER compared to control (saline buffer)=4.74±0.23; ER compared to vehicle (ethanol)=1.75±0.29. Thawed, hairless rat skin pretreated with test substance using Franz cells.
Polysorbate 80 (5%)	Albuterol sulfate	ER compared to control (saline buffer)=2.95±0.45; ER compared to vehicle (ethanol)=1.09±0.17. Thawed, hairless rat skin pretreated with test substance using Franz cells.

ER=Enhancement ratio

Table 11. Highest reported NOAELs for polysorbate 20 and polysorbate 80 reported in a survey of 4 research organizations.³⁹

Animal	Route	Duration	Dose	Comments
Polysorbate 20				
Rat	Oral	1 month	250 mg/kg	Well tolerated
	Oral	90 days	500 mg/kg	Diarrhea
Mouse	Oral	1 month	10 mg/kg	Well tolerated
Polysorbate 80				
Dog	Oral	90 days	5 mL/kg	As 1% of formulation; well tolerated
Rat	Oral	Not reported	350 mg/kg	Well tolerated
	Oral	4 weeks	5 mL/kg	1%; well tolerated
	Oral	7 days	10 mL/kg	1%; well tolerated
	Intravenous	Not reported	100 mg/kg	Well tolerated
Mouse	Intraperitoneal	1 month	10 mL/kg	2%; well tolerated
	Intranasal	3 days	10 µL/nostril	0.2%; well tolerated
Primate	Oral	Efficacy	5 mL/kg	1%; well tolerated

Table 12. In vivo human irritation studies of some polysorbates.

Ingredient (concentration)	Assay	Results; notes	Reference
Polysorbate 60 (concentration not specified in a cream or 100%)	Administered to the foreheads. Amount and n not specified.	Urticaria observed at application sites at 20 min caused by both polysorbate 60-based cream and polysorbate 60. There was no effect of either the polysorbate 60 or the cream on the dorsal and arm skin	²⁵
Polysorbate 60 (1% in DMEM)	Human patch test scored according to ICDRG. Patches were in place for 2 days in Haye's chambers. n=30.	Irritation score=0.4 out of 4.	⁴⁵
Polysorbate 80 (100%)	Test substance administered for increasing time periods: 15 min-4 h and observed at 24, 48, and 72 h. n=29	1 positive reaction. Control of 20% sodium dodecyl sulfate exhibited 24 of 29 reactions.	⁴⁴
Polysorbate 80 (100%)	Test substance administered for increasing time periods: 15 min-4 h and observed at 24, 48, and 72 h. n=24	1 positive reaction. Control of 20% sodium dodecyl sulfate exhibited 8 of 27 reactions.	⁴⁶
Sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (25% aqueous)	10 drops of the solution administered to the scalp twice/d for 16 weeks. n=68	Irritation score 1 out of 68. Mild redness observed in 1 subject. Not irritating.	²⁵

Table 13. Ocular irritation assays of some polysorbates.

Ingredient (concentration)	Assay	Results; notes	Reference
Non-human			
Polysorbate 20 (10%)	Draize test	Maximal average score=0.7; 24-h average score=0.0	⁴⁸
Polysorbate 20 (2%)	Draize test	Not an ocular irritant	⁴⁷
Polysorbate 20 (10%)	Draize test	Maximum average total score=0.7; 24-h score=0. Not an ocular irritant.	⁴⁹
Polysorbate 81 (10% in light mineral oil)	Draize test using New Zealand White Rabbits (n=9)	Irritation score=0 out of 4; not irritating. Eyes were washed 2 sec after administration in 3 rabbits. Eyes were observed at 1, 24, 48, 72 h and 7 days.	²⁴
Polysorbate 81 (100%)	Draize test using New Zealand White Rabbits (n=9)	Irritation score=0 out of 4; not irritating. Eyes were washed 2 sec after administration in 3 rabbits. Eyes were observed at 1, 24, 48, 72 h and 7 days.	²⁴
Sorbitan monostearate, ethoxylated (0.1 g in water)	Draize test using New Zealand White Rabbits (n=3)	Irritation score=0 out of 110; not irritating. Did not produce any eye irritation or any eye discharge throughout the 72-h observation period. No lesions such as pannus, staining were observed.	²⁵
Sorbitan monolaurate, ethoxylated (100%; 0.1 mL)	Draize test using New Zealand White rabbits (n=9)	Irritation score=0 out of 4; not irritating. Eyes were washed 2 sec after administration in 3 rabbits.	²³
In vitro			
Polysorbate 20 (not provided)	EpiOcular test over 7 laboratories	Not predicted to be an ocular irritant. Average mean cell viability 97.40±6.49% of distilled water control.	⁵¹
Polysorbate 20 (2%)	Red blood cell hemolysis assay	Predicted to be a minimal ocular irritant.	⁴⁷
Polysorbate 20 (2%)	K562 cell assay	Predicted to be a minimal ocular irritant.	⁴⁷
Polysorbate 20 (5% in saline; 200 µL)	STE using SIRC cells (CCL-60). Exposure for 5 min.	Predicted to be an irritant.	⁵⁰
Polysorbate 20 (100%; 50 µL)	EpiOcular assay	Predicted to be a non-irritant.	⁵⁰
Polysorbate 20 (100%; 200 µL)	HET-CAM assay (Fertilized chicken eggs (white leghorn species) with microscopic evaluation of hemorrhage, lysis, and coagulation at 0.5, 2, and 5 min.	Predicted to be an irritant.	⁵⁰
Polysorbate 20 (100%)	HET-CAM assay (Same as above but evaluation of time to hemorrhage, lysis, and coagulation)	Predicted to be a severe irritant.	⁵⁰
Polysorbate 20 (100%)	BCOP assay	Predicted to be a mild irritant.	⁵⁰

BCOP=Bovine Corneal Opacity and Permeability assay; DMEM= Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium; HET-CAM=Hen's Egg Test-Chorioallantoic Membrane assay; ICDRG=International Contact Dermatitis Research Group; STE=Short Time Exposure test.

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