

IDA standards and WHO prequalification program of medicines

Built on the experience and expertise IDA has accumulated over the years, IDA Foundation's quality assurance system stands for serious commitment to quality, spanning the entire supply chain – from the manufacturing of raw materials to the delivery products to our customers. Our stringent quality assurance ensures consistency in every batch.

As one of the four pillars of the mission of IDA is Affordability (in addition to Quality, Availability and Service) IDA is continuously looking for more economic efficient ways to supply the programs and projects of our partners. One significant step towards a higher rate of efficiency is to create more commitment to harmonisation of Quality Systems.

The Prequalification Programme of the WHO aims to make quality priority medicines available for the benefit of those in need, in close cooperation with national regulatory agencies and partner organisations. This is achieved through its evaluation and inspections, creating capacity for sustainable manufacturing and monitoring of quality medicines.

The WHO list of prequalified medicinal products has become an important tool for agencies or organisations, in addition to UN organisations, involved in bulk purchasing of medicines, both at country level and at international level.

IDA Foundation fully acknowledges the WHO prequalification program. This means that IDA does not assess dossiers of products that have already been prequalified by the WHO. It is important to verify if products that are procured as WHO prequalified do really comply with the dossier as assessed by WHO. Therefore IDA verifies the batches according the prequalified specifications following the prequalified methods. This encompasses 100% visual inspection, random testing, and performing verification audits. We are convinced this approach is beneficial to the programs involved and ultimately to the patients. The result will be a positive contribution to the increased access to essential medicines.

IDA Foundation, July 2009