

Guideline for Referencing *USP–NF* Documentary Standards

Introduction:

The *USP–NF Online* platform is a document-centric model for the version control and presentation of our documentary standards. Whether a document is official or not official will no longer be linked to when a specific publication—such as the main Issues of *USP–NF*—becomes official but instead is based on the individual document’s official date.

USP has created this guideline to help your organization reference the documentary standard when you are using the *USP–NF Online* (or other USP effective/official products).

Background:

USP–NF is an online-only product; therefore, a general publication reference (e.g. *USP–NF 2026, Issue 1*) will no longer be an indication of an official period. Although USP will continue to publish the *USP–NF* standards on a set schedule, there are changes in the document-centric platform that affect the application of official date references. Each individual document within the online publication has its own official date, which is linked to a unique permanent Digital Object Identifier (DOI). The DOI will only change when there is a revision to a document.

Click [here](#) for more information on DOI.

Recommendation:

- **To make a general reference to a standard:** USP recommends using the name/title of the standard, e.g., “Acebutolol Hydrochloride Monograph.” This general reference is understood to refer to the currently official version of the standard and may be appropriate in certain circumstances (e.g., SOPs, policy documents) where it would be difficult or unnecessary to update the specific version of a standard to reflect each subsequent revision.
- **To make a reference to a specific version of a standard:** When referencing a version of a standard official during a specific time period, USP recommends using the Digital Object Identifier found below the “Auxiliary Information” section. This unique identifier, which is searchable and traceable, is linked to the

official date for the particular *version* of a document. See *Figure 1* for an example of the DOI for General Chapter <467> Residual Solvents.

Figure 1: DOI for <467> Residual Solvents

Auxiliary Information - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
<467> RESIDUAL SOLVENTS	Edmond Biba Senior Scientific Liaison	GCCA2025 Chemical Analysis
REFERENCE STANDARDS SUPPORT	RS Technical Services RSTECH@usp.org	GCCA2025 Chemical Analysis

Most Recently Appeared In:

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. 49(1)

DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M99226_09_01

- **Citation Examples**

- **General Chapter:** USP. Injections and Implanted Drug Products (Parenterals)—Product Quality Tests <1>. In: USP–NF. Rockville, MD: USP; Dec 1, 2020.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M98730_03_01.
- **Monograph:** USP. Acebutolol Hydrochloride. In: USP–NF. Rockville, MD: USP; May 1, 2021.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M125_05_01.

- The DOI will also appear in the printout for a documentary standard in the main header on the first page (see *Figure 2*).

Figure 2: DOI Print-Out (header)

Printed on: Wed Nov 19 2025, 09:45:54 am
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