

frequently asked questions (April 2022 edition) by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Original Japanese version: https://www.ncd.mhlw.go.jp/dl_data/cbd/guidecbd_qa.pdf

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Notice

[Inquiries other than CBD product imports]

- The Narcotics Control Division provides responses regarding whether CBD products intended for import fall under "cannabis" or not. Therefore, please note that inquiries unrelated to this matter (e.g., CBD product exports) sent to CHECKCBD●mhlw.go.jp (replace ● with @ to prevent spam) will not be answered. Please contact the appropriate customs office for inquiries regarding storage and handling of shipments.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q1: Do you accept consultations regarding the export of CBD products?

A1: We do not accept consultations regarding the export of CBD products. The Narcotics Control Division only confirms imports of CBD products.

Q2: Do non-CBD cannabiniol (CBN) products, cannabigerol (CBG) products, and similar CBD-like products require confirmation of non-cannabis status for import?

A2: Confirmation is required for CBD-like products as well. Therefore, please submit the same documentation as for CBD products. Additionally, since THC, HHC (hexahydrocannabinol), and THCP (tetrahydrocannabiphorol) are designated as specified drugs under the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act, imports for recreational purposes are not permitted.

Q3: Do you accept inquiries from parties other than importers?

A3: We do not accept inquiries from intermediaries or exporters. Importers should directly contact us for inquiries.

Q4: Can I submit URLs for documentation in the email body?

A4: We cannot view URLs such as cloud service URLs or manufacturer websites due to security reasons. Please directly attach data files in PDF or similar formats to the email. If the data size exceeds 10MB, please submit the email in multiple parts.

Q5: What should I do if I have questions about importing CBD products?

A5: Please contact us at the email address: CHECKCBD●mhlw.go.jp (replace ● with @ to prevent spam). When contacting us, please ensure that the email subject indicates the inquiry. Please note that we generally do not accept inquiries via phone.

Q6: Is it necessary to submit a certificate of analysis for all CBD products imported?

A6: Please submit a certificate of analysis for each product batch imported. If the batch numbers are the same but the flavors differ, please provide a certificate of analysis for each flavor.

Q7: Are there specified analysis methods?

A7: There are no specified analysis methods, but please include the analysis methods used in the certificate of analysis. If the certificate of analysis contains unique names (abbreviations) for analysis methods used by the analysis institution, please also submit explanatory materials regarding those methods.

Q8: The certificate of analysis provided by the analysis institution only lists the limit of quantitation (LOQ), but is it possible to confirm the non-cannabis status with this certificate of analysis?

A8: As mentioned in answer 3, the certificate of analysis should include the limit of detection (LOD). If the LOD is not listed, confirmation of non-cannabis status cannot be made. Therefore, please request the analysis institution to include the LOD in the certificate of analysis.