1. Purpose

The purpose of this industry standard is to warrant transparency for the consumer regarding the quality of CBD capsules on the Dutch market. Members of CAN (the Cannabinoid Association of the Netherlands) whose products comply with the standard may request the CAN quality mark for these products.

2. Definition

CBD capsules are capsules filled with CBD oil. The definition of CBD oil is included in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1].

CBD capsules exist as hard-shell capsules or as softgel capsules. The hard-shell capsules may be manufactured from a cellulose derivate, such as HPMC (suitable for vegans and vegetarians) or gelatin, which is animal derived. Softgel capsules are made from gelatin, (modified) starch, seaweed or algae extracts (alginates, carrageenan). The consistency of the capsules may be adjusted by the addition of gelling agents, gums, glycerol or sorbitol. Excipients such as surface-active agents, opaque fillers, preservatives, sweeteners, colouring and flavouring substances may be added in line with the regulations in force for food additives.

The production and filling process of the capsules must comply with the requirements of HACCP and ISO 22000 or a similar standard and include suitable in-process controls.

3. Regulatory status

The regulatory status of CBD oil is included in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1] and is also applicable to CBD capsules.

4. Maximum daily dose

The maximum recommended daily dose of CBD is 160 mg[2]. It is also possible to recommend a lower maximum dose.
Each label should contain the maximum recommended daily dose stated as the number of capsules and the amount of CBD per capsule.

5. Claims

No medical claims and no health claims are permitted. Not on the primary or secondary packaging, nor on any marketing material, including flyers, leaflets, ads, websites, blogs, etc.
Health claims are only permitted for ingredients that have been submitted to and approved by EFSA[3]. Until now, no claims have been submitted for CBD or hemp extracts.

[1] https://www.cannabinoidenadviesbureau.nl/en/diensten/keurmerk/
[2] besluit-wob-verzoek-over-over-de-stof-cannabidiol-cbd, 2018 (https://rijksoverheid.archiefweb.eu/#archive search: cannabidiol)
[3] http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling_nutrition/claims/register/public/?event=register.home

6. Labelling requirements[4]

a. Name of the product
b. List of ingredients in descending quantity, per annex VII (EU/1169/2011)
c. Allergen declaration, per annex II (EU/1169/2011)
d. Net quantity, per annex IX (EU/1169/2011)
e. Quantification of the amount of CBD, per annex VIII (EU/1169/2011)
f. Quantification of additional functional ingredients (i.e. vitamins, minerals, herbal extracts, etc), per annex VIII and annex XIII (EU/1169/2011)
g. Date of minimum durability, per annex X (EU/1169/2011)
h. Batch code
i. Storage conditions
j. Instructions for use
k. Dosage recommendation for daily consumption
l. A warning not to exceed the stated recommended daily dose
m. Name and address of the food business operator
n. Statement “Food supplement”
o. A statement to the effect that the product should not be used during pregnancy or breastfeeding
p. A statement to the effect that food supplements should not be used as a substitute for a varied diet
q. A statement to the effect that the product should be stored out of the reach of young children
r. No statements regarding the content of THC

When products are made available on-line (via internet) the required information must also be made available, except for the batch code and date of minimum durability. This can be provided directly with the product or accessible via a hyperlink. Consumers must be able to see this product information online before purchase.

7. Test procedures[5]

The quality of CBD oil must comply with the requirements as stated in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1]. The following additional tests are required for the capsules.

#	Parameter	Specification	Method
1	Appearance	[colour] [shape] capsules [size][6]	Visual
2	Content CBD per capsule	Label declaration +/- 10% (w/w)	in-house method
3	Content functional ingredients per capsule	Label declaration +/- 20% (w/w)	in-house method

[4] According to EU/1169/2011 and 2002/46/EC
[5] See Annex 1 - 1 in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1] for the list of approved laboratories
[6] To be determined by the manufacturer