

The Technical Guidance Note on the Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information

- Comments Invited -



Purpose

- ◆ To assist the trade in compliance with the regulation
 - ◆ To provide technical information on nutrition information on food labels
 - ◆ To answer some of the most frequently asked questions
- ◆ Intended for use as general reference
- ◆ Refer to the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations, Cap.132W for detailed legal provisions



Technical Guidance

- ◆ Information on the labelling requirements of the regulations
- ◆ Technical issues not as part of the regulations, for examples -
 - ◆ Rounding rules
 - ◆ Tolerance limits
 - ◆ Synonyms for nutrient content claims and nutrient comparative claims
 - ◆ Indirect analysis



Rounding Rules

- ◆ Previous comment from the trade – To adopt Mainland’s proposal
- ◆ Mainland’s proposal revised in July 2007 (<http://www.moh.gov.cn/newshtml/19672.htm>)

Macronutrients	Unit	Round to	Definition of “0” (per 100 g/ml)
Energy	Kcal or kJ	1	≤ 4 kcal or 17 kJ
Protein	g	0.1	≤ 0.5 g
Total fat	g	0.1	≤ 0.5 g
Saturated fat	g	0.1	≤ 0.5 g
Cholesterol	mg	1	≤ 5 mg
Carbohydrate	g	0.1	≤ 0.5 g



Vitamins	Unit	Round to	Definition of “0” (per 100 g/ml)
Vitamin A	μg RE	1	≤ 1%NRV
Vitamin D	mg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin E	mg α-TE	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin K	mg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin B1	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin B2	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin B6	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin B12	μg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Niacin	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Folic Acid	μg DFE	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Pantothenic Acid	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Biotin	μg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Vitamin C	mg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Choline	mg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV



Minerals	Unit	Round to	Definition of “0” (per 100 g/ml)
Calcium	mg	1	≤ 1%NRV
Phosphorus	mg	1	≤ 2%NRV
Potassium	mg	1	≤ 1%NRV
Sodium	mg	1	≤ 5 mg
Iron	mg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Zinc	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Copper	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Iodine	μg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Selenium	μg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Magnesium	mg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Manganese	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV
Chromium	μg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Molybdenum	μg	0.1	≤ 2%NRV
Fluoride	mg	0.01	≤ 2%NRV



Rounding Rules

- **Items *not* available under the Mainland's proposal –**
 - **Dietary fibre**
 - **Other vitamins and minerals**
 - **Rounding rules for relative content expressions (i.e., %NRV)**
- **Will keep in view of the development in the Mainland**
- **If the rules are not available at the end, may consider establishing ones by referencing to overseas regulations/guidelines**



Tolerance Limits

- **Previous comment from the trade – To adopt Mainland's proposal**
- **Mainland's proposal revised in July 2007 (<http://www.moh.gov.cn/newshtml/19672.htm>)**
- **Last version – with upper and lower limits (e.g., $\pm 20\%$ of the declared values)**



Tolerance Limits

Nutrients	Tolerance Limits
Energy, Fat, Saturated fat, Trans fat, Cholesterol, Sodium, Sugar, Sugar alcohol	$\leq 120\%$ declared value
Protein, Polyunsaturated fat, Monounsaturated fat, Carbohydrate, Starch, Dietary fibre, Soluble fibre, Insoluble fibre, individual component of fibre	$\geq 80\%$ declared value
Vitamin A, Vitamin D	80% - 180% declared value
Naturally occurring vitamins and minerals, other than vitamin A and vitamin D	$\geq 80\%$ declared value
Added nutrients	\geq declared value



Time Table

- **Draft version – To be made available for comments at the upcoming technical meeting**
- **Finalized version – To be made available within 1 year after the enactment of the regulations**



Information on the Scheme

- **http://www.fhb.gov.hk/en/press_and_publications/otherinfo/050826_labelling/labelling.html**
- **Consultation Paper and Result**
- **LegCo Paper**
- **RIA Report**
- **Previous technical meetings documents / minutes**



- ENDS -

