

EU Health Claims Update

Updated EFSA database: The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has recently published an up to date version of its database of 4,637 Article 13.1 health claims submitted to it for evaluation under the Nutrition and Health Claims Regulation.

The database, accessible at

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/ndameetings/docs/nda100601-ax01.pdf>

includes:

- misplaced claims that in the previous version were accidentally placed under a wrong main health claim entry
- missing claims that were identified by Member States as not submitted to EFSA
- clarifications from the Member States on around 2000 claims, following EFSA's request for further information.

Stakeholders' Conference: EFSA has now issued a Briefing Document on the evaluation of the various different types of health claims covered by the Nutrition and Health Claims on Foods Regulations to serve as a basis for discussion at the meeting. Comment from interested parties is invited prior to the meeting – however, rather than providing new information, the document does little more than confirm EFSA's current approach whereby Article 13.1 (generic) claims are being reviewed in the same way as disease risk reduction claims, etc.

Topics to be discussed at the meeting include general conditions, scientific criteria and pertinent studies for the substantiation of claims; the totality of the available evidence; the characterisation of foods/constituents; beneficial physiological effects; risk factors for disease risk reduction claims; target populations, procedural aspects.

Source: EHPM / IADSA