

JAPAN – Pilot Project on Health Claims

The final report of “The Pilot Project of the Process for the Assessment of Scientific Evidence for Health Claims on Foods” proposed by Japan’s Consumer Affairs Agency (CAA) last May was published via a press presentation in 2012.

The report has five parts:

- A survey with the schemes and concepts existing in different parts of the world (Australia, Canada, China, EU, Korea, New Zealand, USA), which assesses the scientific evidence for health claims on foods
- Investigation of evidence standard for evaluation of physiological functions of nominated 11 food components as a model functional ingredients: Selenium, n-3 PUFA (EPA, DHA, ALA), Lutein, Co-Q10, Hyaluronic acid, Blueberry (Bilberry) extract, Glucosamine, BCAA (Branched Chain Amino Acids), Ginkgo biloba L. leaf extract, Saw palmetto, Lactoferrin
- Issues for future challenge regarding assessment of physiological functions of food components
- General overview

The work-plan for this pilot project can be summarised as follows:

- Expert teams research information about food components and report them to the assessment panel
- The assessment panel comprehensively evaluates this information
- The panel sets the standard of assessment and assesses each of the chosen food component by that standard.

Source: AIFN