

ABOUT THE TASK FORCE

Specific components of the diet can bring benefits beyond those of basic nutrition. However, these beneficial effects need to be supported by scientific evidence before they can be communicated to consumers and others via health or nutrition claims and other relevant channels. The Functional Foods Task Force addresses issues related to functional benefits of foods and develops tools, such as criteria for the evaluation of markers, to define the scientific substantiation of benefits of foods for improvement and maintenance of health and wellbeing.



WHAT'S NEW?

WORKSHOP on 'Quantifying the Impact of Modifying Nutrient Intakes' on 6-7 April 2017 in Brussels, Belgium.

NEW ACTIVITY PROPOSAL on 'Microbiome Human Study Research Guidance' has been approved.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS on microbiome-related activities at IPC 2016 on 21 June 2016 in Budapest, Hungary and IUFOST 2016, on 24 August 2016 in Dublin, Ireland.

CONCISE MONOGRAPH on 'Antioxidant and Anti-Inflammatory Components of Foods' has been published.

EU PROJECTS: The task force is involved in one EU-funded project: PATHWAY-27.

ACTIVITIES

Preferred Approaches for Quantifying the Impact of Modifying Nutrient Intakes

There are well-established population-based recommendations for modifying diets so as to reduce the risk of contracting non-communicable diseases. This information allows the food industry to optimise the composition of foods. However, there are currently no applicable consensus models to measure the impact of these changes.

The aim of this activity is to identify preferred practical models that could be recommended as standardised methods of estimating the quality of life and the health impacts of changes in the nutritional composition of foods. A workshop will be held on 6-7 April 2017 to discuss the outcomes of the expert group.

Exploring the Role of the Major Gut Microbiota Clusters on Nutritional and Functional Benefits of Nutrients and Non-Nutrients

The aim of this activity was to review existing data on the effects of different gut microbiota clusters on the metabolism of nutrients and non-nutrients, as well as the microbial pathways associated with the metabolism and the methodologies applied to study them. A workshop was held to

refine the conclusions drawn, which were also presented at the 2016 ILSI Annual Meeting and several international scientific conferences. Two manuscripts have now been submitted.

In collaboration with the Prebiotics Task Force.

MEMBER COMPANIES

- Abbott Nutrition
- ADM
- Cargill
- DSM
- DuPont Nutrition & Health
- Johnson & Johnson EAME
- Lonza
- Mondelēz Europe
- Nestlé
- PepsiCo International
- Pfizer Consumer Healthcare
- Red Bull
- Südzucker Group
- Unilever
- Wrigley
- Yakult Europe

ACTIVITIES (CTD)

Oral and Systemic Health Resilience

Oral health has been acknowledged to have an impact on overall quality of life. Moreover, it appears that oral health may be related to systemic health. Factors affecting the oral health resilience and a potential link between oral

and systemic health are currently being explored by an expert group. This activity will create the scientific evidence base for subsequent clinical confirmation of health claims both on oral and systemic health.

Marker Validation Initiative: Developing Consensus on Criteria to Evaluate Markers in Nutrition Research

The aim of this multidisciplinary activity is to identify consensus criteria for validation of markers in nutrition research and consensus markers for use in different fields of nutrition research. Based on the

outcomes of a workshop in 2012, consensus criteria have been refined and an evidence-based grading system has been introduced. The next steps in this initiative are currently under discussion.

EU PROJECT

PATHWAY-27 – Pivotal Assessment of the Effects of Bioactives on the Health and Wellbeing, From Human Genome to Food Industry



Scientific understanding of the role and mechanisms of bioactive compounds is fragmented. PATHWAY-27 will determine the impact of selected bioactive-enriched foods (BEF) on physiologically-relevant endpoints related to Metabolic Syndrome risk and deliver a better understanding of the role and mechanisms of action of selected bioactives and BEF. ILSI Europe is leading the work package on 'Guidelines for the Substantiation of Health Claims on Bioactive Enriched Foods'.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- P. Calder *et al.* **Improving Selection of Markers in Nutrition Research: Evaluation of the Criteria Proposed by the ILSI Europe Marker Validation Initiative.** *Nutrition Research Reviews* 2017;1-9.
- B. Halliwell. **Antioxidant and Anti-Inflammatory Components of Foods.** *ILSI Europe Concise Monograph Series* 2015;1-34.
- J. de Vries *et al.* **Markers for Nutrition Studies: Review of Criteria for the Evaluation of Markers.** *European Journal of Nutrition* 2013;52(7):1685-1699.

All publications available on our website: www.ilsieurope.eu. For more information on ILSI Europe's activities, don't forget to follow us on Twitter @ILSI_Europe and connect with us on LinkedIn.

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