Seminar and Workshop on Nutrition Labeling, Claims and Communication Strategies for the Consumer
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Organized and Sponsored by
ILSI SEA Region / ILSI Thailand Country Committee
Co-organized by
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Session 1

Nutrition Labeling and Claims: Regulatory Updates and Future Directions

Nutrition Labeling and Claims: INDIA Updates.

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Nutrition Labeling and Claims: INDIA Updates

Coverage of Presentation

• Transitions of Food regulations from PFA to FSSA.
• Labeling requirements, current status, & issues
• Nutrition and Health Claims - current status for foods
• Food Supplements, FSDU’s, Infant Foods, Novel Foods & others
• Industry demands for N&H Claims.
• Need for Clarity and role of bodies like ILSI/Codex.
Transitions of Food regulations from PFA to FSSA.

- Labeling and Claims regulations not yet fully reviewed.
- Retained most of the Regulations related to Labeling-over 20 years experience and insights.
- Standard Foods
- Proprietary Foods
- Food Supplements, FSDU’s, Infant Foods, Novel Foods & others

Indian Food Code Published - 9th July, 2012.
Announcements

Extension of Proviso to regulation 1.1.2 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation 2011. (Dated : 27-07-2012).

Extension of Proviso to regulation 1.1.2 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation 2011 (PDF)

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Extension of Scientific Committee and panels (PDF)

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Reward Scheme: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India. (Dated : 10-07-2012).

Reward Scheme Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (PDF)

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Extension of Scientific Committee and panels (PDF)

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What governs labeling of foods

- Right to Information on foods – what it is, what it is made up of, how to use, how much to use, nutrition information, storage information, and so on.
- Right to information on “durability”
- Right to know about any thing that I need to take care.
- How much/how many are in the packet and what do I pay for it.
- Foods Regulations/Weight & Measures regulations.
- Genetically Modified/Organic/Natural
- 3rd Party Guidance/Certifications
Standard foods

• For those where the FSSA Rules provide standards.

>300 Std foods.

Disclaimer: Label scans shown are only as examples, taken at random, speaker does not endorse or own these in any way.
Proprietary Foods

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Foods – Advisories

• Specific Advisories
• Vulnerable populations
• Allergens
• GMO (?)
• Irradiated foods
• Permitted sweeteners/preservatives/Color & Flavors (Natural-NI-Synthetic)/stabilizers…. In some cases even qty.
Indian Foods Labeling- need review

• 2 Committees under FICCI and CII have debated the need for and contours of the reviews needed.
• DS Chadha Committee has given their recommendations.
• ILSI had also organized a discussion on labeling.
  • Reasons for review:
• Information overload.
• Repetitive information.
• Too many information to be boxed.
• Nutrition labeling – Do the Consumer really understand?
  ;RDA’s Indian Vs US – confusions
• Clear Categories- Advisory in Place & Food/Health Supplements regulations yet to come out
Nutrition and Health Claims-current status for foods

- Status Quo continues-as it was during PFA regime.
- Consultations and Discussions in Scientific Panels-On
- Regulations on –Nutraceuticals/Food Supplements/FSDU’s/Novel Foods are in the offing.
- Pre approved Claims have not been notified so far.
- Discussions on oversight of Claims under way-
- A 3 TIER approach is under consideration- During Licensing; oversee through Advertising Standards Council of India[ASCI]; and FSSAI retaining final authority
**Definition of Nutrition Claim/s**

*Nutrition claim* means any representation which states, suggests or implies that a food has particular nutritional properties

- Include energy value, protein, fat and carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals

- **What does not constitute nutrition claims:**
  - Mandated - Listing of Ingredients - Nutrition Panel - QUID

*Nutrient content claim* is a nutrition claim that describes the level of a nutrient contained in a food. (Examples: “source of calcium”; “high in fibre and low in fat”.)

*Nutrient comparative claim* is a claim that compares the nutrient levels and/or energy value of two or more foods. (Examples: “reduced”; “less than”; “fewer”; “increased”; “more than”.)
Definition of Health Claim/s

**Health claim** any representation that states, suggests or implies a relationship between
- a Food or
- a Constituent of that Food &
- Health

Health claims include
- **Nutrient function claims** - a nutrition claim that describes the physiological role of the nutrient in growth, development and normal functions of the body
- **Other function claims** - Specific beneficial effects of food consumption on normal functions or biological activities of the body
- **Reduction of disease risk claims** - Linking consumption of a food to the reduced risk of developing a disease or health-related condition
Industry demands for N&H Claims

• Industry has worked under an expert committee under Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industries – FICCI-Foods Panel.

• Submitted draft Guidelines- Aligned with Codex Guidelines.
  – Notify Guidelines
  – No-premarket approval steps (except for novel foods)
  – Notification of pre-approved claims list
  – Oversee through ASCI.
  – Time bound review process, where required
Need for Clarity and role of bodies like ILSI/Codex.

F. No. 6/FSSAI/Dir (A)/Office Order/2011-12
FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road,
New Delhi

Subject:- Advisory on Misbranding/ Misleading claims
Need for Clarity and role of bodies like ILSI/Codex.

- What level of Scientific Evidence/review process
- Would Human Intervention studies in India be made mandatory?
- Would Clinical trials have to follow GCP Guidelines that are published for Drugs?
- Would there be need for and a process for getting FSSAI’s approval for Human Intervention Studies to be conducted in India?
- Recognition of would history of use data on many botanicals known and used in India for centuries.
Breaking News

- The Scientific Panel on Labeling & Claims have finalized “Draft Guidelines for Labeling and Claims” in its meeting held on 9th August, 2012.
- Time to study and send inputs to FSSAI as soon as it is put up for Comments.

THANK YOU FOR A PATIENT HEARING.