

Nutri-RecQuest - Providing access to a valuable dataset concerning Micronutrient Recommendations

The EURRECA Network of Excellence announces that its searchable software tool (Nutri-RecQuest) providing comprehensive data on current micronutrient recommendations across Europe is now available on-line.

Nutri-RecQuest is a web-based software tool that provides access to the data collected by EURRECA partners on current micronutrient recommendations for 29 different micronutrients for different population groups across 37 European and 8 key non-European countries/organisations.^{1,2} In total, it contains information on over 20,000 micronutrient recommendations. The web-based database is freely accessible on the EURRECA website (www.eurreca.org).

Critical review of the data collected by the EURRECA Network of Excellence revealed considerable variations for many micronutrients between countries³, such as those for folic acid and Vitamin D. Additionally, EURRECA's work highlighted that nations have based their current recommendations on different information which is confusing for policy-makers, health professionals, food industry and consumers, and may not ensure adequate micronutrient intake across European populations.

EURRECA is producing scientific guidelines and tools to help scientists, committees and countries produce methodologies to standardise micronutrient recommendations across Europe. Nutri-RecQuest is the latest research and information tool to be made available to those responsible for setting micronutrient recommendations, as well as for policy makers, nutrition scientists, the food industry and consumer organisations. The database allows comparison and evaluation of existing micronutrient recommendations and provides the option to access original publications. It can, therefore, be linked with other nutritional software tools such as those for menu planning or design of innovative foods.⁴

¹ European Journal of Clinical Nutrition (2010) 64, S43-47

² Data collected from 37 European countries, 8 key non-European countries/regions (USA/Canada, Australia/New Zealand, Japan, China, South Korea, SE Asia region, Brazil and Mexico) plus the EC and WHO/FAO.

³ European Journal of Nutrition, 47, S17-40.

⁴ European Journal of Clinical Nutrition (2010) 64 (Suppl 2) S38-42

When new or revised recommendations are set by European and key non-European countries, these will be added by EURRECA during the Network's remaining funded period. The Network is currently exploring the most appropriate ways that Nutri-RecQuest can be updated and maintained after that period.

Nutri-RecQuest has been developed by EURRECA Partners under the coordination of Dr. Adrienne Cavelaars, Wageningen University, The Netherlands and Dr. Agi Kadvan, Institute of Medical Research, Serbia.

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Notes for Editors

The EURRECA (European micronutrient recommendations aligned) Network of Excellence is funded by the European Commission and co-ordinated by ILSI Europe – Contract Number FP6: 036196-2 FOOD. The Network is made up of 35 partners based in 17 countries. Further information is available at www.eurreca.org.

For more media information please contact Sofia Valleley, European Food Information Council (EUFIC) T: +32 (0) 506 89 87, E: sofia.valleley@eufic.org

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