



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 34th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

29 November 2021

(Agreed on 07 December 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Paula Moynihan¹, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member State representatives:

Stephanie Bodenbach

Anna-Karin Lindroos

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir¹

■ EFSA:

NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Silvia Valtueña Martínez, Urszula Kurdej, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré², Constanza De Matteu Monteiro

AMU Unit: Laura Martino, Valeria Ercolano¹, Laura Ciccolallo¹

¹ Attended the meeting in the morning only

² Attended the meeting in the afternoon only

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies received for Paula Moynihan for the afternoon session.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 33rd Working Group meeting held 3-4 November 2021 via web-conference.

The **minutes of the 33rd Working Group meeting** were agreed by written procedure on 11th November 2021.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (**EFSA-Q-2016-00414**)

5.1.1 Dose-response models for sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) and fruit juices (FJs) and incidence of T2DM

The WG rediscussed the dose-response models and comprehensive uncertainty analysis for the relationships between the consumption of SSBs and FJs and incidence of T2DM after the inclusion of a publication that was erroneously omitted. The WG was in consensus with the final certainty rating for each relationship after inclusion of this prospective cohort study.

5.1.1 Remaining comments from the public consultation

The WG discussed the comments received from the public consultation that were not discussed in the previous meeting. The WG focused on those comments that may lead to changes in statistical analyses of data and the conclusions of the opinion, those that may lead to editorial changes in the scientific opinion, and those that appear several times and question the general approach for evidence integration and uncertainty analysis. The WG agreed on how to best address these comments and on changes to be made to the opinion, where necessary.

5.1.2 Changes to the conclusions, abstract and summary

The WG discussed and agreed on the changes to the conclusions, abstract and summary after addressing all comments from the PC.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

Not Applicable.

7. Next meeting

Not Applicable.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 33rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

3-4 November 2021

(Agreed on 11 November 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Paula Moynihan¹, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Lucia Fabiani, Silvia Valtueña Martínez, Urszula Kurdej, Angeliki Sofroniou, Joanna Perello².
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo²

¹ Attended the meeting on the 4th

² Attended the meeting on the 3rd

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies received for Paula Moynihan for the 3rd of November.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 32nd Working Group meeting held on 15 June 2021 via web-conference.

The **minutes of the 32nd Working Group meeting** were agreed by written procedure on 20th June 2021.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (**EFSA-Q-2016-00414**)

5.1.1 Comments from the public consultation

The WG discussed the comments received from the public consultation, focusing on those that may lead to changes in statistical analyses of data and conclusions, those that may lead to editorial changes in the scientific opinion, and those that appear several times and question the general approach for evidence integration and uncertainty analysis. The WG agreed on how to best address these comments and agreed on changes to be made to the opinion, where necessary.

5.1.2 Proposal for a new meeting

The WG agreed on scheduling an additional meeting for the 29th of November 2021.

6. Any Other Business

Not Applicable.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 29th November 2021 via web-conference.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 32nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

15 June 2021

(Agreed on 20 June 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Paula Moynihan, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Lucia Fabiani, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Silvia Valtueña Martínez.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 31st Working Group meeting held on 3-4 June 2021 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 31st Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 14th June 2021.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Hazard characterization: dose-response assessment and derivation of a Tolerable Upper Intake Level

The WG rediscussed the hazard characterisation and agreed on changes made since the last WG meeting.

5.1.2 Assistance to Member States

The WG agreed on having a section offering advice to Member States when the risk cannot be characterised. The WG was in consensus with the approach taken.

5.1.3 Conclusions and recommendations for research

The WG discussed the overall conclusions of the opinion and recommendations for the research community. The WG provided suggestions to be implemented prior to going for endorsement by the NDA Panel.

5.1.4 Abstract and summary

The WG discussed the abstract and summary of the opinion and agreed with the current version. Minor comments and editorials were implemented.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

The draft opinion will be submitted for endorsement for public consultation by the NDA Panel at its Plenary meeting on 6-8 July 2021.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 3-4th November 2021 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 31st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

3-4 June 2021

(Agreed on 14 June 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Paula Moynihan, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member State representatives:

Stephanie Bodenbach

Anna-Karin Lindroos

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir¹

■ EFSA:

AMU Unit: Valeria Ercolano²

DATA Unit: Zsuzsanna Horvath³

NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Lucia Fabiani, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Silvia Valtueña Martínez.

¹ Attended the meeting on the 3rd AM

² Attended the meeting on the 4th AM

³ Attended the meeting on the 3rd AM

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes, except for the order in which the agenda items were discussed.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 30th Working Group meeting held on 20-21 April 2021 via web-conference.

The **minutes of the 30th Working Group meeting** were agreed by written procedure on 23 April 2021.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (**EFSA-Q-2016-00414**)

5.1.1 Dietary sugars intake estimates

The WG discussed the draft opinion in relation to the intake of added and free sugars in consumers and non-consumers of selected food groups. The draft opinion was updated accordingly.

5.1.2 Comments from the Panel

The WG discussed the comments received from the NDA Panel on the draft opinion. The WG agreed on changes to be made in the text.

5.1.3 Overall conclusions on hazard identification

The WG discussed the overall conclusions on hazard identification and agreed on the changes made following the feedback provided at last WG meeting.

5.1.4 Hazard characterization: dose-response assessment and derivation of a Tolerable Upper Intake Level

The WG discussed the hazard characterisation and agreed on how to proceed with this section, which will be re-discussed at the next WG meeting.

5.1.5 Risk characterisation and overall conclusions

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

The WG discussed how to approach the risk characterisation considering the conclusions reached for hazard identification. Different proposals were made by the experts. This section and the overall conclusion of the draft opinion will be re-discussed at the next WG meeting.

5.1.6 Update of literature searches

The WG discussed the Annex on the update of the literature searches for the systematic reviews on chronic metabolic diseases and dental caries. The WG was in consensus with the approach taken.

6. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 15th June 2021 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 30th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

20-21 April 2021

(Agreed on 23rd April 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Laura Martino, Valeria Ercolano¹
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Lucia Fabiani², Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Silvia Valtueña Martínez.

¹ Attended the meeting on the 20th AM and 21st AM.

² Attended the meeting on the 20th AM.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes, except for the order in which the agenda items were discussed.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 29th Working Group meeting held on 16-17 March 2021 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 29th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 24 March 2021.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Dietary sugars intake estimates

The WG discussed the draft opinion in relation to the methodological aspects to consider when estimating dietary sugars intake, their sources, and their relationship to disease endpoints in observational studies. The draft opinion was updated accordingly.

5.1.2 Hazard identification

The WG discussed text and conclusions in relation to the intake of dietary sugars and their sources and risk of cardiovascular diseases, risk of dental caries and pregnancy related endpoints. The WG agreed on changes to be made in the text.

5.1.3 Overall conclusions on hazard identification. Hazard characterisation

The WG discussed the overall conclusions on hazard identification and how to proceed with the hazard characterisation step.

5.1.4 Update of literature searches

The WG was presented with the Annex on the update of the literature searches for the systematic reviews on chronic metabolic diseases and dental caries.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

The WG agreed on changing the meeting dates for the 31st WG meeting to 3-4th of June 2021. The 32nd WG meeting will be held on 15th of June 2021.

7.Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 3rd – 4th June 2021 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 29th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

16-17 March 2021

(Agreed on 24th March 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan¹, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member State representatives:

Stephanie Bodenbach²

Anna-Karin Lindroos³

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir⁴

■ EFSA:

AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Laura Martino, Valeria Ercolano⁵

NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Valeriu Curtui¹, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Silvia Valtueña Martínez.

¹ Attended the meeting on the 16th AM and 17th AM.

² Attended the meeting on the 16th AM.

³ Attended the meeting on the 16th PM and 17th AM.

⁴ Attended the meeting on the 16th.

⁵ Attended the meeting on the 17th AM

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁶ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁷, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process.

Certain interests were declared orally by one member before the beginning of the meeting. For further details on the outcome of the screening of the Oral Declaration of Interest made at the beginning of the meeting, please refer to the Annex.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 28th Working Group meeting held on 14-15 January 2021 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 28th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 21st January 2021.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

The WG discussed the draft opinion in relation to the risk of cardiovascular diseases, gout, pregnancy endpoints and dental caries (hazard identification), as well as sections related to the mechanisms by which dietary sugars could increase the risk of dental caries. The WG agreed on changes to be made in the text and on future steps.

The WG also agreed to close the current data set and not to wait any longer on outstanding requests for additional data.

5.2. Metabolic diseases, hazard identification: Minimum BoE for a comprehensive UA ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

The WG re-discussed the minimum body of evidence required to proceed to a comprehensive uncertainty analysis. The WG agreed on the approach to follow for the assignment of an initial level of certainty and factors to consider for potential upgrading.

5.3. Metabolic diseases, hazard identification: Overall conclusions and data gaps ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

The WG discussed the current overall conclusions on metabolic diseases and brainstormed additional factors to consider. The WG will further discuss in detail this section in the upcoming meeting.

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁷ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

The WG was informed that the stakeholders meeting to be held during the public consultation of the draft opinion is provisionally scheduled for the 21st September 2021.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 20th – 21st April 2021 via web-conference.

Annex

Interests and actions resulting from the Oral Declaration of Interest done at the beginning of the meeting

With regard to this meeting, Prof. Paula Moynihan declared the following interest: membership of the UK SACN sub-group on Maternal and Child Nutrition (SMCN) as an advisor on oral health (agenda item 5.1). In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁸ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁹, and taking into account the specific matters discussed at the meeting in question, the interest above was not deemed to represent a Conflict of Interest for the expert concerned.

⁸ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 28th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

14-15 January 2021

(Agreed on 21 January 2021)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan¹, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member State representatives:

Stephanie Bodenbach

Anna-Karin Lindroos¹

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir²

■ EFSA:

AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo¹, Laura Martino³

NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Valeriu Curtui³, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen³, Silvia Valtueña Martínez.

¹ Attended the meeting on the 14th AM and 15th AM.

² Attended the meeting on the 14th PM and 15th AM.

³ Attended the meeting on the 14th.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 27th Working Group meeting held on 2-3 December 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 27th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 11th December 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

The WG discussed evidence integration across different study designs and how to consider overlapping evidence in randomized controlled trials. An agreement was reached across exposures for metabolic diseases.

The WG also discussed the draft opinion in relation to the risk of obesity, NAFLD/NASH, type 2 diabetes mellitus, dyslipidaemia and hypertension. Changes were introduced in the scientific opinion where appropriate.

5.2. Methodological consideration – dietary assessment methods and dietary intake (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

Sections on dietary assessment methods and dietary intake were re-structured to increase clarity. The text on the characteristics of dietary assessment methods used in observational studies will be further discussed when the agreed changes are incorporated to the draft opinion.

5.3. Update of literature searches (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

The WG agreed on the approach to follow for the inclusion of the new studies in the assessment.

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable.

7.Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 16th - 17th March 2021 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 27th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

2-3 December 2020

(Agreed on 11 December 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan¹, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir²
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Laura Martino
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Valeriu Curtui², Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré³, Lucia Fabiani, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

¹ Attended on the second day.

² Attended on the first day AM.

³ Attended on the first day.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan for the first meeting day.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 26th Working Group meeting held on 14 October 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 26th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 21st October 2020. The meeting planned for 3rd-4th November was postponed to the current one.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

The WG discussed the draft opinion in relation to the risk of NAFLD/NASH, type 2 diabetes mellitus and dental caries (hazard identification), as well as sections related to the digestion, absorption, metabolism and excretion of dietary sugars and to the mechanisms by which dietary sugars could increase the risk of disease. The WG agreed on changes to be made in the text and on future steps.

5.2. Update of literature searches (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

The WG was presented with the update of the literature searches for the systematic reviews on chronic metabolic diseases and dental caries, and with the results of the title/abstract and full-text screening.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

⁴http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 14th - 15th January 2020 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 26th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

14 October 2020

(Agreed on 21 October 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
 - Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 25th Working Group meeting held on 17-18 Sept 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 25th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 26th September 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Evidence integration and uncertainty analysis on metabolic diseases: examples on risk of obesity

The WG discussed the amendments made to the draft opinion including the comments made by the NDA Panel and was presented with a proposal on how to approach each outcome following an example on risk of obesity.

5.1.2 Appraisal observational studies

The WG agreed on the algorithm to follow for the tiering of the risk of bias for observational studies. Further aspects of the appraisal of observational studies were discussed in order to align the evaluation of the risk of bias across reviewers.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 3rd - 4th November 2020 via web-conference.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 25th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

17-18 Sept 2020

(Agreed on 26 September 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos¹
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir²
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani,
Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Paula Moynihan.

¹ Attended the meeting on the 17th PM and 18th September

² Attended the meeting on the 17th AM September

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted. Item 6 on “Discussion on results of observational studies – endpoints related to body fatness (continuous)” was postponed.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA’s Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 24th Working Group meeting held on 3 Sept 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 24th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 11th September 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Principles for evidence integration and uncertainty analysis – metabolic diseases

The WG discussed in detail the conceptual framework framing the integration of the evidence and the analysis of uncertainty and agreed on it.

5.1.2 Proposal for new meeting dates

The WG agreed on the meeting dates for the year 2021. These might suffer some small changes depending on the evolution of COVID-19.

5.1.3 Discussion on the appraisal of observational studies

Some aspects of the appraisal of observational studies were discussed in the WG in order to align the evaluation of the risk of bias across couples of reviewers and solve conflicts.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 14th October 2020 via web-conference.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 24th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

3 September 2020

(Agreed on 11 September 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir¹
- EFSA:
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Zsuzsanna Horvath
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

¹ Attended the meeting from 9.30 to 11

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 23rd Working Group meeting held on 8-10 June 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 23rd Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 16 June 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Discussion on intake assessment

The WG thoroughly discussed the results of the intake assessment for total, added and free sugars, both for the whole population and for consumers of relevant food groups. The draft opinion was updated accordingly.

5.1.2 Discussion on the appraisal of observational studies

Some aspects of the appraisal of observational studies were discussed in the WG in order to align the evaluation of the risk of bias across couples of reviewers and solve conflicts.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 17-18th of September 2020 via web-conference.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 23rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

8-10 June 2020

(Agreed on 16 June 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos¹
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir²
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

¹ Attended the meeting on the 8th and 10th June

² Attended the meeting on the 8th June

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received. This meeting, originally scheduled as a physical meeting, was converted into a teleconference to avoid traveling to EFSA in line with the measures established to reduce the risk of COVID-19.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 22nd Working Group meeting held on 19 May 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 22nd Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 25 May 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Discussion on data available for dental caries

The WG discussed the individual data provided by some authors and the results of the statistical analyses conducted on that data.

5.1.2 Discussion on data analysis of observational studies

The WG discussed the characteristics and uncertainties of the updated linear and non-linear dose-response models for different exposures and incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus and hypertension.

5.1.3 Evidence integration

The WG discussed in detail the body of evidence available for metabolic diseases (intervention and observational studies) and the conceptual framework which could frame the integration of the evidence and the analysis of uncertainty.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 3rd of September 2020 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 22nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

19 May 2020

(Agreed on 25 May 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 21st Working Group meeting held on 31 March – 3 April 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 21st Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 14 April 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars ([EFSA-Q-2016-00414](#))

5.1.1 Discussion on data analysis of observational studies

The WG discussed the characteristics and uncertainties of linear and non-linear dose-response models for different exposures and incidence of type 2 diabetes mellitus.

5.1.2 Discussion on data analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed different options for non-linear dose-response models in relation to fasting triglycerides and fasting glucose.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 8th-10th of June 2020 via web-conference.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 21st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

31 March – 3 April 2020

(Agreed on 14 April 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach¹
Anna-Karin Lindroos
Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir²
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo³, Valeria Ercolano¹, Laura Martino¹
DATA Unit: Davide Arcella⁴, Zsuzsanna Horvath⁴
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani,
Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

¹ Attended on the 2nd and 3rd

² Attended on the 3rd

³ Attended on the 31st, 1st and 3rd

⁴ Attended on the 2nd

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

This meeting, originally scheduled as a physical meeting, was converted into a teleconference to avoid traveling to EFSA in line with the measures established to reduce the risk of coronavirus infection.

2. Adoption of agenda

Changes were made to the agenda, the meeting on 2nd April a.m. was cancelled. The agenda was adopted.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁵ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁶, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting held on 11 March 2020 via web-conference.

The [minutes of the 20th Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 19 March 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1 Discussion on the analysis of observational studies: dose-response analyses on the risk of type 2 diabetes and hypertension

The WG discussed the characteristics and uncertainties of the different dose-response models and agreed on the next steps.

5.1.2 Discussion on the analysis of observational studies: forest plots on the risk of gout and continuous outcomes

The WG was introduced to the forest plots on gout, change in body weight and change in waist circumference. Changes and corrections to be made were discussed and agreed.

5.1.3 Presentation and discussion on intake assessment

Update on sugar intake data from the national food consumption surveys which populate the EFSA's Comprehensive Food Consumption Database were presented to the WG. Decisions were taken on how to present the data in the scientific opinion. Answers to the questionnaire sent to National Competent Authorities of European countries requesting information on current national

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

recommendations for dietary sugars, intake data from national surveys and national food composition data on added and free sugars were also summarised and discussed.

5.1.4 Evidence integration

The WG discussed how evidence from intervention and observational studies could be integrated, including the related uncertainties.

6. Any Other Business

Tasks were distributed among WG experts and EFSA staff. The WG was informed that, owing to the current situation linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, all meetings will be held via web-conference and meeting times adapted accordingly until a new notice.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 19th of May 2020 via web-conference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 20TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

11 March 2020

(Agreed on 19 March 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Anna-Karin Lindroos
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionut Craciun, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani,
Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 19th Working Group meeting held on 09 March 2020 via web-conference.

The minutes of the 19th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 19th March 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

Discussion on the analysis of observational studies

The WG discussed the display of the forest plots and agreed on the exposure-outcome pairs for which dose-response analyses could be undertaken. The WG also discussed for which exposure-continuous outcomes pairs forest plots could be made.

6. Any Other Business

Discussion on the appraisal of observational studies

The WG discussed and agreed on how to proceed with the appraisal of the observational studies and agreed on the confounders to be considered when appraising each of the different outcomes.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place from 31st March to 3rd April 2020 via web-conference.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 19TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held via web-conference

09 March 2020

(Agreed on 19 March 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting¹, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Ionuts Craciun, Lucia Fabiani, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré,
Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

¹ Attended the meeting from 3pm

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 18th Working Group meeting held on 15-16 January 2020 in Parma.

The minutes of the 18th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 24th January 2020.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

Discussion on the data analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed the design of the forest-plots and agreed on their structure. Linear dose-response analyses for several outcomes was presented and discussed. Decisions were taken on the variables for which non-linear dose-response analyses could be feasible and appropriate.

6. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 11th March 2020 via web-conference.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held in Parma

15-16 January 2020

(Agreed on 24 January 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Eva Birgisdóttir¹, Anna-Karin Lindroos¹
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo², Valeria Ercolano³, Laura Martino³
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1 Via teleconference

2 On 15th January

3 On 16th January

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁴ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁵, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 17th Working Group meeting held on 13 December 2019 via web-conference.

The **minutes of the 17th Working Group meeting** were agreed by written procedure on 17th December 2019.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (**EFSA-Q-2016-00414**)

5.1.1 Discussion on the appraisal for observational studies

The WG discussed and refined the criteria for the appraisal of outcome measurements and other threats to internal validity. Amendments to the guidance for assessors will be made in order to achieve more consistency.

5.1.2 Discussion on the analysis of observational studies

The WG discussed and agreed on the rationale for the display of the forest plots, the information to include and the models to show. The WG agreed on the possibility of doing dose-response analyses on some exposure-outcome pairs.

5.1.3 Discussion on the continuous data available for observational studies

The WG discussed the data available on weight-related continuous outcomes and how to approach the data analysis considering their heterogeneity.

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁵ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

5.1.4 Discussion on the analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed the analyses done so far and agreed on those to be done in the future, including dose-response analyses.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Discussion on the reporting of intervention studies

The WG agreed on the way of presenting the information on intervention studies in the opinion.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9th March 2020 via teleconference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 17TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held by Tele-conference

13 December 2019

(Agreed on 17 December 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Laura Martino, Valeria Ercolano
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Lucia Fabiani, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 16th Working Group meeting held on 12-13 November 2019 in Parma.

The minutes of the 16th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 21 November 2019.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2019-00414)

5.1.1 Discussion on the piloting of the appraisal for observational studies

The WG discussed the piloting of the appraisal that was done prior to the meeting. Agreements were made on how to appraise different aspects of the studies. Amendments to the guidance will be made in order to achieve more consistency.

5.1.2 Discussion on the correlation coefficient for analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed the information and questions sent to them prior to the meeting and reached an agreement on the correlation coefficient to be used for the analysis of intervention studies and on the range to be used for sensitivity analysis.

6. Any Other Business

Not Applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 15-16th January 2020 in Parma.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 16TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held in Parma

12-13 November 2019

(Agreed on 21 November 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)¹
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Anna Karin Lindroos², Julia Wanselius³ - representatives for the National Food Agency, Sweden (mandate requestor)
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino
DATA Unit: Zsuzsanna Horvath
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Ariane Titz⁴, Silvia Valtueña Martínez⁵

¹ 12 November a.m.

² via teleconference

³ 13 November a.m. via teleconference

⁴ 12 November

⁵ Delegated to chair the meeting on 12 November p.m. and 13 November a.m.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁶ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁷, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 15th Working Group meeting held on 1st October 2019 in Parma.

The **minutes of the 15th Working Group meeting** were agreed by written procedure on 9 October 2019.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1 Presentation and discussion on dental caries

Data extraction from the included studies on dental caries is ongoing. The WG discussed how to proceed regarding the individual data shared by some authors, as well as the different options available for data presentation and analysis.

5.1.2 Presentation and discussion on data analysis of intervention studies on metabolic diseases

The WG discussed different approaches regarding the methodology to be used for the analysis (including dose-response analyses) of data from the intervention studies included. The results are expected to be discussed at the next WG meeting.

5.1.3 Presentation on food composition databases and intake assessment

The methodology used to develop food composition databases for added and free sugars from the food composition database on total sugars was presented and discussed in detail. Intake data using the EFSA Comprehensive Food Consumption database was also presented, including data on the contribution of different food groups to the intake of total, added and free sugars. The WG discussed refinements that could be done and how the results could be presented in the opinion.

⁶ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁷ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

6. Any Other Business

The WG was informed about the discussion that will take place at the next WG meeting and about the work that needs to be done prior to it.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 13th December 2019 via teleconference.



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held by tele-conference on

25th October 2019

(Agreed on 04th November 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received by Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 14th Working Group meeting held on 1st October 2019 in Parma.

The minutes of the 14th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 9 October 2019.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1 Discussion on the data analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed the data available from the intervention studies included and considered different options for data presentation and analysis. The WG agreed on the type of forest plots and dose-response analysis that could be prepared for discussion at the next meeting.

6. Any Other Business

No other business was discussed during the meeting.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 12-13 of November 2019 in Parma.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON NUTRITION, NOVEL FOODS AND FOOD ALLERGENS

MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held by tele-conference on

1st October 2019

(Agreed on 9th October 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member State representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach (SANTE E1)
Anna-Karin Lindroos (National Food Agency, Sweden)
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Maria Chiara Magri
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarré, Silvia Valtueña Martínez, Julia Wanselius (guest scientist)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 13th Working Group meeting held on 3-4 September 2019 in Parma.

The **minutes of the 13th Working Group meeting** were agreed by written procedure on 6 September 2019.

5. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1. Discussion on the tailoring of the critical appraisal tool for observational studies

The WG discussed the appraisal tool to be used for observational studies and reached some agreements on the adaptations to be made with regards to questions related to the exposure assessment, attrition and confounding.

6. Any Other Business

6.1.1. Discussion on the analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed (and agreed on) the classification of the exposure in intervention and control groups in order to continue with the data analysis.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 25th of October 2019 via web conference.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held on 03-04 September 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 06 September 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach (SANTEE1)¹, Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland)²,
Anna-Karin Lindroos (National Food Agency, Sweden)²
- EFSA:
AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo, Valeria Ercolano, Maria Chiara Magri
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnes De Sesmaisons-Lecarre, Silvia Valtueña Martínez
- Others:
Not Applicable

¹ Via teleconference on the 4th of September

² Via teleconference



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting held on 26 June 2019, web-conference.

The minutes of the 12th Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 02 July 2019.

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1. Presentation and discussion on data extraction of observational studies

The WG discussed pilot tables for data extraction of observational studies. These were amended and agreed considering data requirements for appraisal and analysis.

5.1.2. Presentation and discussion on data analysis of observational studies

Data on incidence of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus was used to pilot data analysis for dichotomous outcomes. Issues arising from the different choices of exposure categories used in the available studies were extensively discussed.

An outcome to be discussed narratively was also piloted. The WG agreed on how this kind of outcomes should be presented in the text of the opinion.

5.1.3. Discussion on the appraisal of observational studies

The WG had a detailed discussion on how to tailor the Critical appraisal tool to be used for observational studies. Different options were considered to pilot the appraisal forms.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



5.1.4. Presentation and discussion of preliminary results regarding the data analysis of intervention studies

The WG discussed different strategies to approach data analysis for intervention studies. Preliminary plots in relation to the variables of interest were presented to facilitate the discussion.

5.1.5. Presentation on the outcome of the appraisal of intervention studies

A heat map including the outcome of the appraisal of intervention studies was presented. The WG discussed how the outcome of the appraisal could be used for data analysis and interpretation of the results.

6. Any Other Business

The WG was informed that the request for extension of the deadline has been accepted. The new deadline of the project is March 2021. The charter will be updated accordingly.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 1st of October 2019 via teleconference.

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 12TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

TELE-conference, 26 June 2019

(Agreed on 02 July 2019)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Pauline Emmett¹, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (chair)
- Hearing Experts:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Silvia Valtueña Martínez
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Roger Adan and Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes except for the order in which agenda items were discussed.

¹ Participated from 2.30pm to 4.30pm



3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 11th Working Group meeting held on 12-13 June 2019, Parma.

The minutes of the 11th Working Group meeting held on 12-13 June 2019 were agreed by written procedure on 19 June 2019.

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1 Additional discussion on the exclusion of intervention studies

The WG discussed some intervention studies which were included after full text screening and for which questions were raised regarding their eligibility based on the inclusion/exclusion criteria depicted in the protocol. Decisions on inclusion/exclusion were taken for each study.

5.1.2 Discussion on the appraisal of intervention studies

The WG discussed the appraisal done by the different members and reached consensus regarding their answers.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Discussion on an intervention study for data analysis

An intervention study was discussed by the WG in order to solve some concerns presented during the data analysis.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 3-4 September 2019 in Parma.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held on 12-13th June 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 19 June 2019)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (chair)

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Stephanie Bodenbach (SANTE E1)¹; Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland)², Anna Karin Lindroos (National Food Agency, Sweden)

■ EFSA:

AMU Unit: Laura Ciccolallo³, Valeria Ercolano³, Laura Martino

NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnes De Sesmaisons-Lecarre³, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen⁴, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella⁵, Zsuzsanna Horvath⁶

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ Via teleconference

² Via teleconference on the 12th June 2019 morning

³ Only on 12th June 2019

⁴ Only on 13th June 2019

⁵ Only on 12th June afternoon

⁶ Via teleconference on 12th June 2019 afternoon



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes except for the order in which agenda items were discussed on the second day.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence⁷ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁸, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting held on 9-10 April 2019, Parma.

The [minutes of the 10th Working Group meeting](#) held on 9-10 April 2019 were agreed by written procedure on 16 April 2019.

5. Scientific topic for discussion:

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1. Presentation and discussion on proposals for exclusion of included observational studies

The WG discussed some observational studies which were included after full text screening and for which questions were raised regarding their eligibility on the basis of the inclusion/exclusion criteria depicted in the protocol. Decisions on inclusion/exclusion were taken for each study. Studies for which authors will need to be contacted for additional information were also discussed and identified.

⁷ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁸ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



5.1.2. Presentation and discussion on data extraction of observational studies

The WG was presented with a summary of the observational studies included after full-text screening by exposure and outcome. Different options for data extraction and analysis depending on data availability were discussed.

The WG agreed on some criteria to consider for data extraction and analysis by outcome.

The WG also discussed the data extracted from observational studies on pregnancy outcomes and incidence of gout.

5.1.3. Discussion on the appraisal of observational studies

This item was not discussed during the meeting due to time constraints.

5.1.4. Presentation on the food composition databases for added and free sugars

The WG was informed about the work done on the food composition databases for added and free sugars and on how it will proceed.

5.1.5. Presentation on preliminary intake data for total sugars

The WG discussed new preliminary results of intake data from the EFSA's Comprehensive Food Consumption Database. Further feedback from the WG on possible errors/refinements is expected in the coming months.

5.1.6. Presentation and discussion on data analysis of intervention studies

The WG was presented with some descriptive statistics on the three outcomes where a dose-response analysis appears to be feasible.

The WG discussed several aspects of the analysis and took decisions regarding the stepwise approach to follow.

5.1.7. Discussion on the appraisal of intervention studies

This point will be covered via teleconference on 26th June 2019, starting at 2.30pm (Parma time).

6. Any Other Business

Considering the workplan and the workload, the need for an extension of the negotiated deadline to complete this mandate was discussed.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 3-4 September 2019 in Parma.

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 10TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUGARS

Held on 9-10th April 2019, Parma

(Agreed on 16 April 2019)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (chair)

■ Hearing Experts:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Stephanie Bodenbach (SANTE E1)

■ EFSA:

AMU Unit: Elisa Aiassa, Andrea Baù, Valeria Ercolano, Laura Martino

NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Agnès De Sesmaisons-Lecarrè, Charlotte Nielsen¹, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Zsuzsanna Horvath,

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ Only on 10 April 2019



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes, except for the order in which agenda items were discussed on the second day.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 22-23 January 2019, Parma.

The minutes of the 9th Working Group meeting held on 22-23 January 2019 were agreed by written procedure on 28 January 2019.

5. Scientific topic for discussion [http:](#)

5.1. Draft Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

5.1.1. Presentation and discussion on the current status of data extraction of intervention studies

There was an introduction on the progress made in relation to the data extraction from the intervention studies included in the systematic review for metabolic disease-related outcomes, which is almost complete. Decisions were made to exclude some studies for which the data available are not suitable for the assessment.

5.1.2. Presentation and discussion on data analysis of intervention studies

The WG was informed that the data analysis of the intervention studies has started. The results will be presented and discussed at the next WG meeting.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



5.1.3. Discussion on the appraisal of intervention studies

The WG shared and discussed the pilot appraisals of intervention studies done before the meeting and agreed on the outcomes.

There was a presentation on how the appraisal forms will look like in DistillerSR® tool in order for the WG members to be able to appraise the studies before the next WG meeting.

5.1.4. Studies on dental caries

The WG was informed about the current status of systematic review on dental caries-related outcomes. Decisions were taken to contact authors for individual data to perform dose-response analyses on homogeneous endpoints where possible.

5.1.5. Presentation on the food composition database for total sugars

The WG was informed about the on-going work on the food composition database for total sugars. First estimates of intake data from the EFSA's Comprehensive Food Consumption Database were presented and discussed.

5.1.6. Presentation and discussion on data extraction of observational studies

The WG discussed issues related to the quantification of sugars intake from different sources in the observational studies included after the full-text screening and proposed some solutions in preparation for the data extraction.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 12-13 June 2019 in Parma.

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group on Sugars

Held on 22-23 January 2019

(Agreed on 28 January 2019)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **Hearing Experts: Not Applicable**

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

None

- **EFSA:**

NUTRI Unit: Lucia Fabiani, Charlotte Nielsen¹, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

AMU Unit: Elisa Aiassa, Laura Martino¹

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella², Zsuzsanna Horvath²

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Irene Mattisson, Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir, Stephanie Bodenbach

2. Adoption of agenda

¹ Only on 22 January 2019; ² Only on 23 January 2019

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group (WG) members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Draft Opinion on the scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

4.2. Data extraction for intervention and observational studies

There was an introduction on the progress made in relation to the systematic reviews conducted in relation to this project. The full-text screening has been completed for studies on metabolic diseases and dental caries, and the preparatory work for the data extraction is ongoing.

The WG considered the endpoints of interest (disease and intermediate factors) investigated in the intervention and observational studies included in the assessment, and discussed about the endpoints that could be used for dose-response analyses.

The WG further discussed issues related to the quantification of the sugars intake from different sources in the observational studies included after full-text screening, and proposed some solutions in preparation for the data extraction.

4.3. Discussion on the appraisal of individual studies

The WG performed a pilot appraisal on a set of intervention studies, following the OHAT/NTP RoB tool customised for human controlled trials, as foreseen in the protocol.

4.3. Presentation on the current status of the intake assessment

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

The WG was informed about the on-going work on the food composition database for total sugars. The outlier analysis and data cleaning are almost complete.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9-10 April 2019 in Parma.

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

Minutes of the 8th meeting of the Working Group on Sugars

Held on 22-23 November 2018

(Agreed on 3 December 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **Hearing Experts:** Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

None

- **EFSA:**

NUTRI Unit: Lucia Fabiani, Silvia Valtueña Martínez, Charlotte Nielsen

AMU Unit: Elisa Aiassa¹, Laura Martino¹

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Zsuzsanna Horvath²

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir, Irene Mattisson, Stephanie Bodenbach

2. Adoption of agenda

4.1. Item 6 (Discussion on the appraisal of individual studies) was withdrawn from the Agenda. The agenda was adopted with this change.

¹ Only on 22 November 2018

² Only on 23 November 2018

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence³ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management⁴, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group (WG) members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Draft Opinion on the scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

4.2. Discussion on data extraction

There was an introduction on the progress made in relation to the systematic reviews conducted in relation to this project. The full-text screening has been almost completed both for metabolic diseases and dental caries studies.

The WG discussed issues mainly related to how sugars intake has been assessed, calculated and reported in the observational studies included after full-text screening, and proposed some solutions in preparation of the data extraction.

The WG also discussed and solved some issues related to the data available from the intervention studies included after full-text screening. The discussion focussed mainly on the dietary conditions in which the studies were conducted, the type of interventions and comparators, and the outcome variables reported. A preliminary set of data to extract was also discussed.

4.2 Full-text screening: feedback from the WG/NUTRI Unit and discussion on the remaining conflicts among reviewers

The WG discussed and solved the remaining conflicts found among reviewers during the full text screening of papers (done in duplicate) for the projects on metabolic diseases and dental caries.

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

⁴ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

4.3. Presentation on the current status of the intake assessment

The WG was informed about the on-going work on the food composition database for total sugars, in particular on the outlier analysis and data cleaning.

4.4. AOB

The WG was informed about the amount and type of data received on the questionnaires sent in September to European Countries regarding national food consumption surveys and national food composition data on total, added and free sugars, and on national dietary recommendations on the amount of sugars (whether total, added or free) to be consumed in the diet. Answers from 25 countries (out of 37 contacted) were received.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 22-23 January 2019 in Parma.

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

Minutes of the 7th meeting of the Working Group on Sugars

Held on 2-3 October 2018

(Agreed on 5 October 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Carlo Galli¹, Mathilde Kersting, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **Hearing Experts:** Not Applicable

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland) (via webconference), Irene Mattisson (National Food Agency, Sweden)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Laura Martino, Andrea Baù¹

NUTRI Unit: Lucia Fabiani, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Paula Moynihan.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

¹ Only on 2 October 2018

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group (WG) members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Draft Opinion on the scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake Level of dietary sugars (EFSA-Q-2016-00414)

There was an introduction on the progress made in relation to the systematic reviews conducted in relation to this project. Two separate literature searches were performed: one for metabolic disease-related outcomes and the second for dental caries. The title and abstract screening has been completed for both projects.

The WG discussed and solved conflicts found during the full text screening of papers related to metabolic disease outcomes (done in duplicate). The principles and the tool that will be used for the critical appraisal of individual studies were also discussed. The group was informed about the on-going work on the food composition database for total sugars.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 22-23 November 2018 in Parma.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Sugars

Held on 15-16 May 2018

(Agreed on 22 May 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland) (via webconference),
Irene Mattisson (National Food Agency, Sweden)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Ana García, Irene Muñoz Guajardo

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella

NUTRI Unit: Lucia Fabiani, Andrea Germini, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Monty Duggal.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Outcome of the public consultation on the draft protocol for free sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00828](#))

The Working Group continued the discussion of the comments received during the public consultation and proceeded with the drafting of the technical report that will address the comments received. All the sections of the document were discussed. A new version of the technical report will be circulated for a final round of comments before the document is presented to the next NDA Panel plenary meeting.

5. Protocol for the assessment of the mandate on free sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00646](#))

The working group discussed the revisions of the draft protocol and agreed on the changes proposed following the comments received during the public consultation. All sections of the document were discussed. A new version of the draft protocol will be distributed for a final round of comments before the document is presented to the next NDA Panel plenary meeting.

6. Workplan 2018-2019

The WG discussed and approved timelines and task allocations for the activities to be carried out during the next year.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 2-3 October 2018 in Parma.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies

Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group on Sugars

Held on 20-21 March 2018

(Agreed on 26 March 2018)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy (day 1), Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland) (via webconference),
Stephanie Bodenbach (DG SANTE), Irene Mattisson (National Food
Agency, Sweden)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Ana García, Irene Muñoz Guajardo

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Horwath Zsuzsanna

NUTRI Unit: Andrea Germini, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Monty Duggal.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Outcome of the public consultation on the draft protocol for free sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00828](#))

The members of the working group were informed about the comments received during the public consultation on the draft protocol for the assessment of free sugars that closed on 4th March, and on the feedback received from the participants to the related Technical meeting with stakeholders held in Brussels on 13th February.

The Working Group discussed the comments received and started the preparation of the technical report that will address all the comments received during the public consultation process. A new version of the technical report will be circulated in preparation for the next working group meeting.

5. Protocol for the assessment of the mandate on free sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00646](#))

The working group discussed which parts of the protocol will need to be revised based on the comments received. A new version of the draft protocol will be circulated in preparation for the next working group meeting.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 15-16 May 2018 in Parma.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Working Group on Added sugars

Held on 30 November 2017

(Agreed on 7 December 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **Hearing experts:**

Andy Hart

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland), Irene Mattisson (National Food Agency, Sweden)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Ana García

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella

NUTRI Unit: Andrea Germini, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Stephanie Bodenbach (DG SANTE) and Monty Duggal.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Protocol for the assessment of the mandate on free sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00646](#))

The members of the Working Group discussed the new version of the draft protocol for the assessment. Comments from the experts and from the mandate requestors were discussed and the document amended accordingly.

Andy Hart supported the discussion on the methods for integrating and weighing the evidence to set a level of intake for free sugars and on how to evaluate the uncertainty in the body of the evidence that will be gathered.

A new version of the draft protocol will be circulated via email for final comments before the document will be presented to the EFSA NDA Panel members for possible endorsement for public consultation.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 20-21 March 2018 in Parma.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Working Group on Added sugars

Held on 9-10 November 2017

(Agreed on 17 November 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland), Stephanie Bodenbach (DG SANTE), Irene Mattisson (National Food Agency, Sweden)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Ana García, Irene Munoz Guajardo

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella, Laura Kirwan

NUTRI Unit: Andrea Germini, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Monty Duggal and Pauline Emmett.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Protocol for the assessment of the mandate on free sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00646](#))

The members of the Working Group discussed the new version of draft protocol for the assessment, which incorporates all the contributions and comments received. The protocol will be further revised following the decisions taken at the meeting and a new version will be presented at the next meeting.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 30th November 2017 via web-conference.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Working Group on Added sugars

Held by WEB-conference on 2 October 2017

(Agreed on 5 October 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Roger Adan, Pauline Emmett, Paula Moynihan, Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Stephanie Bodenbach (DG SANTE), Irene Mattisson (National Food Agency, Sweden)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Ana García, Irene Munoz Guajardo

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella

NUTRI Unit: Valeriu Curtui, Andrea Germini, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Monty Duggal, Mathilde Kersting and Bryndís Eva Birgisdóttir (University of Iceland).

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision-Making Processes¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Declarations of Interest², EFSA screened the Annual Declaration of Interest and the Specific Declaration of Interest filled in by the working group members invited for the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process or at the Oral Declaration of Interest at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Protocol for the assessment of the mandate on added sugars ([EFSA-Q-2017-00646](#))

The members of the Working Group discussed the new version of draft protocol for the assessment, which incorporates all the contributions and comments received. The protocol will be further revised following the decisions taken at the meeting and a new version will be presented at the next meeting.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9-10 November 2017 in Parma.

¹ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencepolicy.pdf>

² <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/independencerules2014.pdf>

Scientific Panel on Dietetic Products, Nutrition and Allergies

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Working Group on Added sugars

Held on 18-19 July 2017, Parma, Italy

(Agreed on 24 July 2017)

Participants

- **Working Group Members:**

Monty Duggal, Pauline Emmett, Mathilde Kersting, Paula Moynihan,
Luc Tappy, Marco Vinceti (Chair)

- **European Commission and/or Member States representatives:**

Stephanie Bodenbach (DG SANTE)

- **EFSA:**

AMU Unit: Ana García

DATA Unit: Davide Arcella

LA Unit: Simone Gabbi

NUTRI Unit: Valeriu Curtui, Andrea Germini, Silvia Valtueña Martínez

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Roger Adan and Irene Mattisson
(National Food Agency, Sweden).

2. Adoption of agenda