

Overarching Principles for Health Star Rating Technical Advisory Group

In undertaking the review of the Health Star Rating (HSR) Calculator, the HSR Technical Advisory Group (TAG) should consider the TAG Terms of Reference which include:

- the former Front-of-Pack Labelling (FoPL) Project Committee objectives and principles for the development of a FoPL system; and
- the former Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council FoPL Policy Statement.

The TAG should keep in mind that the priority focus of the HSR system is packaged, manufactured and/or processed foods presented ready for sale to the consumer in the retail sector.

The HSR system should:

- support and be consistent with the Australian Dietary Guidelinesⁱ and the New Zealand Eating and Activity Guidelinesⁱⁱ;
- align with the Australia and New Zealand Food Standards Codeⁱⁱⁱ as the principle instrument for food regulation in Australia and New Zealand, particularly nutrition, health and related claims regulations;
- encourage reformulation to improve the healthiness of the food supply; and
- be based on robust data and strong scientific evidence.

In conducting its work, the TAG should also consider:

- including as many products in the current food supply as possible when completing modelling exercises;
- ensuring proposed options are evidence based and include recent and evolving research; and
- the complexity of defining 'healthy' and 'unhealthy' foods and encouraging healthy eating and healthy food choices, whilst acknowledging that the HSR system is one tool in a suite of preventive health strategies.

ⁱ National Health and Medical Research Council [Australian Dietary Guidelines \(2013\)](#)

ⁱⁱ New Zealand Ministry of Health, 2015, [Eating and Activity Guidelines for New Zealand Adults](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ Food Standards Australia New Zealand, 2017, [Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code](#)