

**Business Facilitation Advisory Committee
Wholesale and Retail Task Force**

“Salt / Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the details of the voluntary “Salt / Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products jointly introduced by the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (CRSS), the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

Background

2. Salt and sugar intake is closely related to health. Excessive sodium intake will increase the risk of hypertension, stroke and coronary heart disease. Sugar intake is a determinant of body weight and dental caries.

3. CRSS had advised the Government to work with all of the stakeholders to cultivate a culture of low-salt-and-sugar diet in the community along the three directions of “starting from an early age”, “enhancing transparency of information”, and “strengthening publicity and education”.

4. In October 2017, the CRSS, the FHB and the CFS jointly introduced the voluntary “Salt / Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products (the Scheme) to help consumers identify low-salt-low-sugar products more easily and make informed choices. It is also wished that the Scheme will serve as a catalyst for the trade to provide more varieties of low-salt-low-sugar products for consumers.

The Scheme

5. The Scheme provides a set of four labels (Annex I), “Low Salt”, “No Salt”, “Low Sugar” and “No Sugar” in three languages (Chinese, English and Bilingual). The labels are available in colour and black-and-white version, and can be downloaded from the CFS website.

6. The Scheme applies to any prepackaged food falling within the definition of “low salt”, “no salt”, “low sugar” and “no sugar” under the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132 W).

Nutrient	Description of claim	Conditions
Sodium (Salt)	Low	Food, solid or liquid, containing not more than 0.12 g of sodium per 100 g/mL of food.
	No	Food, solid or liquid, containing not more than 0.005 g of sodium per 100 g/mL of food.
Sugars	Low	Solid food containing not more than 5 g of sugars per 100 g of food; or liquid food containing not more than 5 g of sugars per 100 mL of food.
	No	Solid food containing not more than 0.5 g of sugars per 100 g of food; or liquid food containing not more than 0.5 g of sugars per 100 mL of food.

7. The Scheme is voluntary in nature. The trade may decide the size of the labels on their own but the labels should be clear and legible. Labels should be printed or stuck prominently on the food packaging.

8. Trade members who would like to participate in the Scheme only need to notify the CFS. No prior approval from the CFS is required. Trade members are requested to complete a notification form and send it together with the relevant product information to the CFS. Trade members may also notify the CFS through a submittable e-Form. If the labels could not be displayed on the food packaging, trade

members are welcome to display the labels on the publicity materials of the relevant food outside the Scheme. Information of the products under the Scheme will be uploaded to the CFS website.

Advice sought

9. Members are invited to note and provide views on the Government's work on the Scheme.

**Centre for Food Safety
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
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Labels of “Salt / Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products

Colour version

Bilingual



Chinese



English



Black-and-white version

Bilingual



Chinese



English

