

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002101

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Educational Institution

Organization Name: Cornell University Cooperative Extension

First Name: Sonya

Last Name: Islam

Job Title: Extension Associate

Key Topic: Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Fats, Fluid and Electrolytes, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Other

Sub Topic: Oils, Unsaturated fatty acids, Sodium, Trans fatty acids, Weight loss, Weight maintenance

Attachment: Y

Comment: The comments provided are with regards to the areas of creating healthy environments for children, breastfeeding, sodium recommendations, fatty acid recommendations, and the maximal intake of daily calories from added sugar.

Comment ID: 001729

Submission Date: 07/12/2010

Organization Type: Educational Institution

Organization Name: University of Washington

First Name: Adam

Last Name: Drewnowski

Job Title: Professor

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: N

Comment: My name is Adam Drewnowski. I am a faculty member of the University of Washington in Seattle. Working on the affordable nutrient index (ANI), I have created lists of what foods provide key nutrients at the lowest cost.

My analyses have been based on USDA data sets: The Food and Nutrient Database for Dietary Studies (FNDDS 1.0), the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion food prices database, and the dietary intake data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys.

The 2010 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC) has noted that inadequate potassium intake by Americans was associated with higher blood pressure, especially when accompanied by excessive sodium intake. The adequate intake (AI) for potassium set by the Institute of Medicine is 4700 mg. That level of intake is not met by any of the age-gender groups in the American population.

At present, the chief sources of potassium in the American diet are milk, coffee, chicken and beef, and citrus juices. However, potassium rich diets tend to be associated with

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

higher diet costs, adjusting for energy. Attempting to meet potassium guidelines may be difficult for some consumers.

However, lower cost sources of potassium are readily available. White potatoes in all forms are among the lowest cost sources of potassium, as are beans, chickpeas and lentils, as well as powdered milk and frozen citrus juices.

The 2010 DGAC did address the healthful qualities of beans, nuts, and seeds and low-fat milk products. I would like to take this opportunity to note that white potatoes also provide a number of key nutrients, including potassium, at a very affordable cost.

Thank you for the opportunity of offering this written testimony.

Adam Drewnowski, PhD
Director, Nutritional Sciences Program
University of Washington

Comment ID: 002040

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Educational Institution

Organization Name: University of Washington, Seattle

First Name: Adam

Last Name: Drewnowski

Job Title: Director, UW Center for Obesity Research

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: Americans, more than ever, need practical, balanced nutrition guidance on how to choose nutrient-dense foods in order to curb obesity.

Working on nutrient density of foods, I have created new methods and metrics to rank and classify foods based on their nutrient composition, and have seen how science supports a positive approach to food guidance that offers consumers practical ways to identify a range of foods necessary to build healthy diets. It is for this reason that I urge the USDA/HHS to reconsider the definition of nutrient dense foods that was proposed by the 2010 DGAC.

Although the 2010 DGAC has technically accepted the 2005 definition of nutrient dense foods as those that contained substantially more nutrients than calories, the proposed definition seems to be largely based on the lack of solid fats and added sugars, or SoFAS.

The "zero tolerance" threshold for SoFAS makes the proposed definition overly restrictive. Suggestions that nutrient-dense foods also should be naturally nutrient rich and minimally processed will narrow the definition of nutrient density even further and exclude healthy foods that make significant nutrient contributions to the American diet.

I would like to offer three suggestions for improving the proposed definition of nutrient density to help meet public health objectives:

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

First, the definition of nutrient density should be positive and based on a food's total nutrient package. Nutrient profiling methods should balance nutrients to encourage against nutrients to limit.

Second, the definition of nutrient density should include a broader variety of foods from every food group because healthy diets can be achieved without severe restrictions.

Third, the definition of nutrient density should take into account calories per dollar and nutrients per dollar.

Comment ID: 000970

Submission Date: 06/15/2010

Organization Type: Individual/Professional

Organization Name:

First Name: Angie

Last Name: Ford

Job Title:

Key Topic: Alcoholic Beverages, Food Safety, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: N

Comment: I would like to see food and drinks clearly labeled when an artificial sweetener is used. Many of the sweeteners are associated with migraines and are not easily decipherable on the list of ingredients as they seem to be "hidden".

Comment ID: 001983

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Individual/Professional

Organization Name:

First Name: Dennis T

Last Name: Gordon

Job Title: PhD

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic: Fiber, Whole grains

Attachment: Y

Comment: Please see attached comments.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 001344

Submission Date: 07/02/2010

Organization Type: Individual/Professional

Organization Name:

First Name: Cathy

Last Name: Cohen

Job Title: Nutritionist

Key Topic: Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Fats, Food Groups, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Other

Sub Topic: Fruits, Meat, Beans, Eggs, Fish, and Nuts, Oils, Unsaturated fatty acids, Vegetables, Weight loss, Weight maintenance

Attachment: N

Comment: Research is emerging that a Mediterranean eating style may be the most healthful and protective from disease. Guidelines should emphasize the importance of whole foods, plant foods, and consumption of healthy fats and oils (olive oil, canola oil, nuts and seeds, avocados, fatty fish), de-emphasizing the erroneous notion that fat is unhealthy and is to be avoided. Fat intake at even 40% of caloric intake may be very healthful for those who are able to maintain a healthy weight by keeping total calorie intake within age and weight-appropriate target range. At the same time, guidelines should emphasize the potential detrimental health effects of refined grain products which should be included in the discussion of added sugars. Guidelines for daily consumption of vegetables and fruits should be increased so as to replace other foods that are less nutrient-dense and more calorie-dense to aid in weight management. Physical activity guidelines should include simple ways to accumulate shorter bouts of activity during the day as an alternative to (or in addition to) one 30 or 60-minute session, since the idea is get people moving more frequently overall, outside of scheduled formal exercise. Lastly, ways to actually get people to read the Dietary Guidelines and adhere to them should be explored - which of course may entail changes on the industry and policy levels.

Comment ID: 001067

Submission Date: 06/21/2010

Organization Type: Individual/Professional

Organization Name:

First Name: Angela

Last Name: Hammond

Job Title: Nurse Practitioner

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: N

Comment: More emphasis should be placed on eating nutrient dense, real, whole foods as a regular daily diet and only eating refined foods rarely. Giving people information on the foods which contain the most nutrients such as in a "best of" list for each category would also be beneficial.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002048

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: Grocery Manufacturers Association

First Name: Jeffrey

Last Name: Barach

Job Title: Vice President, Science Policy, New Technologies

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Evidence-based Review Process, Fats, Fluid and Electrolytes, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic: Added sugars, Saturated fatty acids

Attachment: Y

Comment: The Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) represents the world's leading food, beverage and consumer products companies. The Association promotes sound public policy, champions initiatives that increase productivity and growth and helps ensure the safety and security of consumer packaged goods through scientific excellence. The GMA board of directors is comprised of chief executive officers from the Association's member companies. The \$2.1 trillion food, beverage and consumer packaged goods industry employs 14 million workers, and contributes over \$1 trillion in added value to the nation's economy.

GMA congratulates the 2010 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC) on their achievement. We thank the staff of Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion and Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion for this opportunity to provide comments on how we believe the 2010 DGAC report should be used to build a strong and effective 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Comment ID: 002066

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: The Sugar Association

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Evidence-based Review Process, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic: Added sugars

Attachment: Y

Comment: The Sugar Association is pleased to offer the attached comments to the Secretaries of the US Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services for their consideration as they complete the important process of finalizing the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002064

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: USA Rice Federation

First Name: Anne

Last Name: Banville

Job Title: Vice President, Domestic Promotion

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic: Added sugars, Fiber

Attachment: Y

Comment: Attached is USA Rice Federation comments on DGAC technical report. Thank you.

Comment ID: 001999

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: American Meat Institute

First Name: Betsy

Last Name: Booren

Job Title: Director, Scientific Affairs

Key Topic: Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Evidence-based Review Process, Fluid and Electrolytes, Food Groups, Food Safety, Minerals, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Other, Protein, Vitamins

Sub Topic: B Vitamins, Folate, Iron, Meat, Beans, Eggs, Fish, and Nuts, Other, Potassium, Sodium, Vitamin A and Carotenoids, Weight loss, Weight maintenance, Zinc

Attachment: Y

Comment: See attached document for AMI comments.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002106

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: Soyfoods Association of North America

First Name: Nancy

Last Name: Chapman

Job Title: Executive Director

Key Topic: Eating Patterns, Evidence-based Review Process, Fats, Food Groups, Minerals, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Protein, Vitamins

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: The Soyfoods Association of North America suggests that in translating the Scientific Report from the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee into policy and consumer documents, that DHHS and USDA consider the following suggestions:

1. Distinguish soy products/soyfoods separately from ?cooked dry beans and peas and seeds/nuts.?
2. Recognize that soy protein is comparable to animal protein in protein quality, based on the widely recognized methodology, Protein Digestibility Corrected Amino Acid Score (PDCAAS).
3. Highlight the nutritional adequacy and high-quality protein value of soyfoods.
4. Support further research on the health benefits of plant-based diets and soyfoods in relation to heart disease, weight management and diabetes prevention.
5. Create a consumer brochure that balances simple text with menu tables, graphics and other visuals which captivates, motivates and displays to consumers how to incorporate more plant-based foods into their daily diets.

Comment ID: 002108

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: National Pork Producer Council

First Name: Sam

Last Name: Carney

Job Title: President

Key Topic: Eating Patterns, Evidence-based Review Process, Food Groups, Minerals, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Protein, Vitamins

Sub Topic: B Vitamins, Meat, Beans, Eggs, Fish, and Nuts, Potassium

Attachment: Y

Comment: Although it agrees with the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee that obesity is the No. 1 public health concern and that Americans need to eat more fruits and vegetables, the National Pork Producers Council is concerned with the committee?s recommendation that Americans consume only ?moderate? amounts of lean meat.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

The problem with the American diet is not over-consumption of lean meat, which provides key nutrients not available from plant-based proteins and which studies show can aid in weight loss, it is over-consumption of empty calories ? foods filled with added sugars and solid fats that provide little nutritional value.

Lean meat is a nutrient-rich source of lean protein with unique attributes not offered by plant proteins, and extensive peer-reviewed research supports a clear role for protein in the form of lean meat as a key part of the solution to the obesity epidemic.

Comment ID: 002071

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: National Milk Producers Federation

First Name: Beth

Last Name: Briczinski

Job Title: Director, Dairy Foods & Nutrition

Key Topic: Eating Patterns, Food Groups, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: Please see the attached document.

Comment ID: 002036

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: Nutrient Rich Foods Coalition

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: The Nutrient Rich Foods (NRF) Coalition is a partnership that brings together leading scientific researchers, health professionals, communications experts and agricultural commodity organizations representing the five basic food groups.

Balanced, Positive Approach is Critical to Improving Public Health

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

For more than three decades, national nutrition advice has centered around an "avoidance strategy," focusing on which nutrients and foods to avoid, instead of considering the total nutrient package (both nutrients to encourage and those to limit) of foods and beverages. As evidenced by the fact that Americans are overweight and undernourished, the nutrient avoidance approach hasn't worked.

Science supports the 2010 DGAC recommendations that Americans adopt a total diet that is "energy-balanced and nutrient-dense," by shifting consumption patterns to include more nutrient-dense vegetables, fruits, high-fiber whole grains, low-fat milk and milk products and seafood, moderate amounts of lean meats, poultry and eggs and less solid fats, added sugars and sodium. The DGAC report defines "nutrient-dense" foods as "foods that are in forms that are lean and low in solid fat and without added solid fats, sugars, starches, or sodium and that retain naturally-occurring components such as fiber." This definition is meant to clarify the definition in the 2005 DGA, which defines nutrient-dense foods as those that "provide substantial amounts of vitamins and minerals (micronutrients) and relatively few calories."

The proposed definition, with its emphasis on nutrient avoidance, risks excluding many foods that make significant nutrient contributions to the diet. Instead, science supports a more positive approach to food guidance that offers a practical approach to identifying a range of foods to include in healthy diets.

Comment ID: 001898

Submission Date: 07/14/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: American Sheep Industry Assn

First Name: Glen

Last Name: Fisher

Job Title: President

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: N

Comment: The 2010 DGAC report states that animal proteins "provide both better quantity and quality of protein than plant protein" and concludes that "good health and optimal functionality across the life span are achievable goals but require a lifestyle approach including a total diet that is energy balanced and nutrient dense." On average, a three-ounce portion of lamb provides 175 calories and is a good to excellent source of seven nutrients—a nutrient-rich profile that clearly fits within the DGAC's conclusion.

In addition, the Committee recommends a shift in dietary patterns to a more "plant-based diet" that includes "only moderate amounts of lean meats, poultry, and eggs." In the absence of a clear definition of "plant-based diet" and guidance on how to incorporate animal proteins into energy balanced and nutrient dense diets, this recommendation runs the risk of ineffectively communicating the role of animal protein in healthy diets.

The lamb industry supports the DGAC recommendations for a total diet that is energy balanced and nutrient dense. In fact, our educational efforts are founded on this premise. Since 2007, ASI has worked with the American Lamb Board and our counterparts in Australia and New Zealand, through the Tri-Lamb Group, to educate nutrition professionals and consumers on the role of lamb in healthy diets. This effort highlights the nutritional benefits of lamb along with healthy preparation techniques emphasizing leaner cuts served alongside vegetable, fruits, and whole grains.

We respectfully ask the DGAC to critically evaluate the specific recommendations in this report to "shift food intake patterns to a more plant-based diet" and "consume only moderate amounts of lean meats, poultry, and eggs." These recommendations need to be revised to prevent misinterpretation and reinforce the role of lean, nutrient-rich animal proteins, such as lamb, in energy balanced, nutrient-dense diets.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002100

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Industry Association

Organization Name: United States Potato Board

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: The potato industry is meeting the challenge of developing frozen potato offerings with significantly improved nutritional profiles.

Comment ID: 002093

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Nonprofit/Voluntary

Organization Name: Center for Science in the Public Interest

First Name: Margo

Last Name: Wootan

Job Title: Director, Nutrition Policy

Key Topic: Alcoholic Beverages, Carbohydrates, Eating Patterns, Fats, Food Groups, Food Safety, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Other

Sub Topic: Added sugars, Cholesterol, Fish oil, Omega 3 fatty acids, Fruits, Grains, Whole grains, Meat, Beans, Eggs, Fish, and Nuts, Milk, Oils, Unsaturated fatty acids, Saturated fatty acids, Trans fatty acids, Vegetables, Whole grains

Attachment: Y

Comment: The Center for Science in the Public Interest applauds the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC) for its careful review of the science and generally wise conclusions. Overall, we support the report and urge HHS and USDA to translate the scientific recommendations into 1) policy and environmental changes and 2) a revised understandable and actionable Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) to help people eat more healthfully. In our comments, we focus primarily on maximizing the usefulness of the DGA, and we highlight several concerns about the advisory committee's conclusions.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002062

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Nonprofit/Voluntary

Organization Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

First Name: Christopher

Last Name: Hansen

Job Title: President

Key Topic: Alcoholic Beverages, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Protein

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network is pleased to submit comments on the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee report.

Comment ID: 002041

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Nonprofit/Voluntary

Organization Name: American Heart Association

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Fats, Fluid and Electrolytes, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Protein

Sub Topic: Added sugars, Cholesterol, Fiber, Fish oil, Omega 3 fatty acids, Oils, Unsaturated fatty acids, Saturated fatty acids, Sodium, Trans fatty acids, Whole grains

Attachment: Y

Comment: Please see attached document

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002150

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Nonprofit/Voluntary

Organization Name: EarthSave Miami

First Name: Jeffrey

Last Name: Tucker

Job Title: Chair

Key Topic: Eating Patterns, Evidence-based Review Process, Fats, Food Safety, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: N

Comment: Please give a consistent message:

- On animal foods and disease
- On dietary fat and obesity
- On dairy products and health
- On saturated and trans fats

Please include information which was omitted:

- Lactose Intolerance Ignored
- Damage from Animal Protein Ignored
- Major Sources of Infections Ignored

Please correct these FACTUAL ERRORS:

- Plants Are Incomplete Proteins
- Plant-Based Diets Are Nutritionally Inadequate
- Dairy Products and the Risk of Malnutrition
- Eggs Are Safe for the General Public
- Fish Is Health Food, Especially during Pregnancy

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 001638

Submission Date: 07/12/2010

Organization Type: Other

Organization Name: General Mills Inc.

First Name: Kathryn

Last Name: Wiemer

Job Title: Fellow/Director, General Mills Bell Institute of Health & Nutrition

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Evidence-based Review Process, Fats, Fluid and Electrolytes, Food Groups, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic: Added sugars, Fiber, Fish oil, Omega 3 fatty acids, Grains, Whole grains, Saturated fatty acids, Sodium, Trans fatty acids, Whole grains

Attachment: Y

Comment: Please see attached letter outlining General Mills' comments on the 2010 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee's Technical Report. We appreciate the work of the DGAC Committee during the development process. Please contact me with any questions regarding our comments. Kathy Wiemer

Comment ID: 002075

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: Other

Organization Name: Kellogg Company

First Name: Nelson

Last Name: Almeida, PhD, FACN

Job Title: Vice President, U.S./Global Nutrition Science, Labeling and Marketing

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Food Groups, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic: Fiber, Grains, Whole grains, Whole grains

Attachment: Y

Comment: Attached are comments on the Final Report of the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 001915

Submission Date: 07/14/2010

Organization Type: Other

Organization Name: NuVal LLC

First Name: Annette

Last Name: Maggi

Job Title: Sr. Director of Nutrition & Regulatory

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: Please find attached comments from NuVal LLC on the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Committee Final Report.

Comment ID: 001670

Submission Date: 07/12/2010

Organization Type: Professional Association

Organization Name: American Society for Nutrition

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Key Topic: Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Food Safety, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Sub Topic:

Attachment: Y

Comment: Americans over-consume SoFAS; we are grateful that energy density was given appropriate attention by the committee.

Comments Summary Report

Submission Date Between 06/15/2010 and 07/30/2010

Key Topic: Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc

Comment ID: 002121

Submission Date: 07/15/2010

Organization Type: State/Local Government Agency

Organization Name: Boston Public Health Commission

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Conley

Job Title: Director of Intergovernmental Relations

Key Topic: Carbohydrates, Eating Patterns, Energy Balance/Physical Activity, Fats, Nutrient Density/Discretionary Calc, Other

Sub Topic: Added sugars, Other, Saturated fatty acids, Weight loss

Attachment: Y

Comment: The Boston Public Health Commission commends the work of the DGAC in attempting to distill a large and often contradictory body of scientific evidence into a comprehensive set of guidelines that for the first time move beyond individual behavior to policy and environmental systems change. We appreciate the Committee's recognition of the severe health threat posed by the increasing rates of obesity and overweight in American communities, and especially the racial inequities in the factors contributing to obesity and related chronic disease; the disparities in rates of obesity and overweight by race and ethnicity are also increasing. As the recipient of Communities Putting Prevention to Work funding from the CDC, BPHC is strongly committed to working in partnership with our local communities and the federal government to utilize the best science to create healthier environments for nutrition and physical activity for all neighborhoods in Boston. BPHC agrees with the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee that reducing obesity and chronic disease requires a "coordinated system-wide, multi-sectoral approach" that engages "those in education, government, healthcare, agriculture, business, advocacy and the community" with a fundamental emphasis on primary prevention. We urge the committee to move quickly from advice to an action plan with funding and local government and community partnership.