

CLINICAL RESEARCH WORKING GROUP

BACKGROUND

In the last decades, nutrition companies have invested heavily in developing state-of-the-art pre-clinical and clinical sciences to substantiate the health benefits of their products and ingredients, as well as their tolerability and safety. The design, execution and reporting of nutrition research is normally done in close collaboration with academic scientists, and has resulted in many scientific articles in high ranked peer-reviewed journals.

Furthermore, these companies have developed quality procedures, ensuring that their research complies with the relevant scientific, ethical and regulatory standards, including procedures for their in-house activities, as well as for managing the research done within the setting of hospitals and other partners.

The “Clinical Research Working Group” (CRWG) was initiated by representatives of leading nutrition companies, acknowledging the need for harmonization of standards in clinical research, as well as the importance of increasing the perception of the “outside world” of the high standards existing in these companies. The initiative should ultimately lead to an international consensus on Standards for Nutrition Industry-Sponsored Clinical Research, and a correct and fair appreciation of the scientific value and credibility of such clinical research.

Therefore, the objective of the CRWG is to harmonize Nutrition Industry Clinical Research Standards, and to enhance the appreciation of the Scientific Value and Credibility of Nutrition Industry-Sponsored Clinical Research.

The CRWG activities should result in more credibility, of :

- Industry-Sponsored Clinical Research
- Industry-Academia collaborations
- Industry Researchers and Academics involved in such collaborations

The methodology of the CRWG will be the creation of standards, position papers and/or statements, e.g. :

- CRWG Statement
- Industry Standard for Nutrition-Sponsored Clinical Research
- International Consensus on Standards for Industry-Sponsored Clinical Research by Nutrition Industry, Academia and Governmental bodies

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STATEMENT

1. The Clinical Research Working Group (CRWG) is an initiative of companies manufacturing food products and/or ingredients.
2. The scope of the CRWG is Nutrition Clinical Research.
3. The CRWG gives highest priority to :
 - a. Safety and well-being of research subjects
 - b. Quality of Clinical Research
 - c. Transparency
4. The CRWG is committed to high standards of Clinical Research by :
 - a. Complying with local and international laws pertaining to research on human subjects
 - b. Aligning research methodology with accepted principles of good practices including Declaration of Helsinki 2013 / ICH-GCPs/ CONSORT
5. The CRWG is committed to translating scientific research into practice to improve public health and well-being.

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