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FDA Focus Groups - Comments Requested

The Academy's Policy Initiatives & Advocacy team would like our Research DPG's feedback on [Focus Groups as Used by the FDA](#). These comments will provide the foundation for a report that the Academy will submit to the FDA.

Background: The FDA conducts focus group interviews on a variety of topics involving FDA-regulated products, including food. The major purposes of these focus groups is to:

1. Obtain patient and consumer information that is useful for developing variables and measures for quantitative studies,
2. Better understand patients' and consumers' attitudes and emotions in response to topics and concepts, and
3. Further explore findings obtained from quantitative studies.

The FDA will use focus group findings to test and refine their ideas, but will generally conduct further research before making important decisions such as adopting new policies and allocating or redirecting significant resources to support these policies.

The FDA invites comments on these topics:

1. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FDA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of FDA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information [i.e., 8800 respondents annually, 1.75 hours per response = 15,400 hours], including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

Please email your comments about any of these topics to Mary-Jon Ludy (mludy@bgsu.edu), our Research DPG Policy & Advocacy Leader, **by Tuesday, May 30**.

National Research Month

May is National Research Month! The initiative and its annual theme, Research Matters!, is highlighting the relevance and importance of scientific research in dietetics, while promoting valuable resources the Academy provides to encourage and support the research process by all registered dietitian nutritionists.

"Research has practical applications in every area of dietetics practice, making a solid research background a useful tool for every RDN," said registered dietitian nutritionist and Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics President Dr. Evelyn Crayton. "This new awareness campaign will help the Academy further promote the incredible work of RDNs in improving the lives of everyone through current, science-based nutrition guidance."

As part of Research Month, the Academy will profile members in its [Food & Nutrition Magazine](#) who are active in dietetics research in a variety of practice areas. Additionally, the Academy has launched an improved research section of its professionally-focused website, eatrightPRO.org. This new content is designed to help both registered dietitian nutritionists and allied health professionals better engage in research, regardless of their day-to-day practice area.

The Academy develops [research priorities](#) that guide policy and standards for practice; strategies for advocating, facilitating, convening, funding and educating members; and collaboration with other scientists, health care providers and professional organizations.

"Research forms the backbone of dietetics practice and is the basis for the Academy's work in consumer education and public policy," Crayton said. "Practice-based research activity is critical to discovering not only how nutrition interventions affect different disease states, but also how they impact outcomes and the lives of patients. Research in community settings also fills a public health function and determines the role of nutrition in achieving a healthy population."

Funding Opportunity Announcements

Mobile Technology for Child Nutrition Innovation Laboratory
United States Department of Agriculture
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/mobile-technology-child-nutrition-innovation-laboratory>

Center for Food Safety in Child Nutrition Programs
Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/center-food-safety-child-nutrition-programs>

Nutrition and Alcohol-Related Health Outcomes (R01)
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institutes of Health
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-17-211.html>

ASPEN Rhoads Research Foundation Grants
American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
https://www.nutritioncare.org/Research/ARRF/ASPEN_Rhoads_Research_Foundation_Grants/

Webinars of Potential Interest

The National Nutrition Research Roadmap: Application of Systems Science, Design and Systems Change to Effect Population Level Change in Eating Behaviors (Part 4)
American Society for Nutrition
Wednesday, May 31, 2017, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm ET
[Registration](#) required.

Use of the Electronic Medical Record in Prevention Research
NIH Webinar Series—Medicine: Mind the Gap
Thursday, June 15, 2017, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 noon ET
[Registration](#) required.

University of Colorado Denver Center for Global Health, Colorado School of Public Health
Grants Management 101 Toolkit
[More information](#) about this online program.

Second Century Donor Spotlight

We would like to recognize and extend a heartfelt *thank you* to our Research DPG members who have donated to the Foundation's Second Century initiative:

- Hope D Barkoukis
- Suzanne Domel Baxter
- Lucille Beseler
- Nicole E Brown
- Sonja L Connor
- Margaret E Cook-Newell

- Nancy M DiMarco
- Nancy J Emenaker
- Diane M Enos
- Joan G Fischer
- Constance J Geiger
- Barbara J Gordon
- Susan E Helm
- Carla S Honselman
- Debra G Hook
- Kendra K Kattelmann
- Carrie King
- Christina C Lemon
- Mary-Pat Maciolek
- Donna S Martin
- Aida C G Miles
- Margaret A Powers
- Mary Pat Raimondi
- Judith C Rodriguez
- Mary K Russell
- Barbara M Spalding
- Sachiko St. Jeor
- Naomi Trostler
- Linda V Van Horn
- Linda A Vaughan
- Barbara J Visocan
- Katherine A West
- Adrienne A White
- Kay N Wolf
- Lauri Y Wright

Donations to the Second Century Initiative will fund:

- Projects that explore current and emerging opportunities for the profession, such as **research** projects featuring credentialed practitioners; professional development offerings to enhance practitioner skills; and connections with groups to grow and strengthen the dietetics community globally; and
- Scholarships, fellowships, grants and awards to support members working to accelerate improvements in global health and well-being through food and nutrition in a variety of settings from public education to ending malnutrition to advancing patient-centered care.

Research DPG Matching Challenge (May 5 – Aug. 25, 2017)

- For a **limited time only** (May 5 — August 25, 2017), donations made by individual RDPG members will be matched by an anonymous RDPG member, up to a total of \$5,000!
- Plus, *each RDPG member who donates during this timeframe will be entered into a raffle for a free RDPG membership for FY 2018-19 courtesy of the anonymous donor!*
- **After making your donation online** during the timeframe, **email your name and amount donated** to Suzi Baxter (sbaxter@mailbox.sc.edu) with the **email's subject line as "RDPG Matching Challenge"**. Suzi (RDPG Treasurer) is coordinating the RDPG Matching Challenge with the anonymous donor.
- **A donation of any amount will help and be appreciated.**
- You can **donate online at** <http://www.eatrightpro.org/users/Donate%20to%20the%20Academy%20Foundation>.

We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give



Our mailing address is: 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000 Chicago, Illinois 60606

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