



NUTRITION UNIT

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ALPHA-LIPOIC ACID

Held on 05 March 2021 via web-meeting

(Agreed on 16 March 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Alexandre Maciuk (Chair), Cappellani Daniele, Henk Van Loveren, Richard Ijzerman
- Hearing Expert:
Not applicable
- European Commission:
SANTE Unit E1: Carolin Bendadani, Sephanie Bodenbach, Fruzsina Nyemecz
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Janusz Ciok, Valeriu Curtui, Céline Dumas, Leng Heng, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Ariane Titz
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Group members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting held on 17 December 2020 via web conference.

The [minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting](#) were agreed by written procedure on 21 December 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Scientific opinion on the safety of alpha-lipoic acid in food, submitted by the European Commission (EFSA-Q-2020-00457³)

The WG discussed the comments received during the public consultation. The WG agreed on the answers to be provided in an annex to the opinion that will summarise the comments received and provide information on how they are considered in the scientific opinion. The opinion was amended accordingly, e.g. the sections on identity of alpha-lipoic acid (ALA); source, production process, stability and type of formulations available; absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of ALA; the summary of case reports linking ALA intake with insulin auto-immune syndrome; and on uncertainties, and the abstract was revised accordingly.

The draft Opinion and the technical report on the outcome of public consultation will be sent to the WG for comments before submitting to the Plenary meeting of the NDA Panel for discussion and possible adoption.

EFSA would like to thank the experts of the WG for their support and contribution to the opinion.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting(s)

Additional meeting dates of this Working Group are not foreseen at the moment.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

³ Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January until mid-February. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available [here](#)



NUTRITION UNIT

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ALPHA-LIPOIC ACID

Held on 17 December 2020 via web-meeting

(Agreed on 21 December 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Alexandre Maciuk (Chair), Cappellani Daniele, Henk Van Loveren
- Hearing Expert:
Richard Ijzerman
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Stephanie Bodenbach, Fruzsina Nyemecz
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Janusz Ciok, Céline Dumas, Leng Heng, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Ariane Titz
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Group members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence¹ and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management², EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 1 December 2020 via web conference.

The minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 4 December 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Scientific opinion on the safety of alpha-lipoic acid in food, submitted by *the European Commission* (EFSA-Q-2020-00457)

The WG discussed the draft opinion and decided on the changes to be made. The WG members agreed to present the draft opinion to the NDA Panel at its next meeting on 19-21 January 2021 with a view to endorse it for public consultation.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

A provisional meeting is scheduled for 25 January 2021, to be held as a web-meeting.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

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MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ALPHA-LIPOIC ACID

Held on 1 December 2020 via web-meeting

(Agreed on 04 December 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Alexandre Maciuk (Chair), Cappellani Daniele, Henk Van Loveren
- Hearing Expert:
Richard Ijzerman
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Janusz Ciok, Valeriu Curtui, Céline Dumas, Wolfgang Gelbmann, Leng Heng, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Ariane Titz
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Group members

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4. Agreement of the minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 29 October 2020 via web conference.

The minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 10 November 2020.

5. Scientific topics for discussion

5.1. Scientific opinion on the safety of alpha-lipoic acid in food, submitted by *the European Commission* (EFSA-Q-2020-00457)

The WG discussed the data obtained from the case-reports identified through the search and a draft opinion. The WG also agreed on the further steps in the assessment.

6. Any Other Business

Not applicable

7. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 17 December 2020 as a web-meeting.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf



NUTRITION UNIT

Scientific Panel on Nutrition, Novel Foods and Food Allergens

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ALPHA-LIPOIC ACID

Held on 29 October 2020 via web-meeting

(Agreed on 10 November 2020)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Alexandre Maciuk (Chair), Cappellani Daniele, Henk Van Loveren
- Hearing Expert:
Richard Ijzerman
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Yvette Azzopardi
- EFSA:
NUTRI Unit: Ester Artau Cortacans, Janusz Ciok, Valeriu Curtui, Céline Dumas, Leng Heng, Charlotte Salgaard Nielsen, Ariane Titz
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants.

2. Adoption of agenda

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3. Declarations of Interest of Working Group members

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4. Scientific topics for discussion

4.1. Scientific opinion on the safety of alpha-lipoic acid in food, submitted by *the European Commission* (EFSA-Q-2020-00457)

The WG was provided with background information on the mandate. The WG also discussed a draft protocol for the assessment, including the type of evidence that will be used. Further discussion will follow in the next WG meeting. The secretariat informed the members of the WG about the status of the literature review.

5. Any Other Business

The WG was provided with a short overview about EFSA, its way of working, and the NDA Panel.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 01 December 2020 as a web-meeting.

¹ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf