



To Whom It May Concern:

At its conclusion and by consensus, the 4th International Yale Symposium on Olive Oil and Health (Rome, September 15-18), endorsed the position described below on the issue of the use of the NutriScore and Front-of-Package-Label (FOPL) for olive oil.

Although NutriScore has admirable objectives the proposed FOPL penalizes the traditional and culturally rich Mediterranean diet, a model for sustainable food systems and internationally recognized as a healthy dietary pattern.

Thus, we propose that before FOPL is adopted, all and any implications for public health should be considered while at the same time a rigorous scientific analysis and assessment of the NutriScore criteria, such as the below, is undertaken:

- the assessment of the use, by the FOPL system, of a fixed amount to calculate the nutrient score (100 g of each food item)
- the impact and importance of adding a message to guide consumers to select foods that are simple by nature (not processed)
- the consistency of the criteria to be used for grading foods, which is currently uneven in some cases

While the above issues are being assessed, **we recommend that, based on the constantly accumulating evidence about its health benefits, olive oil should either (a) be labeled as a NutriScore Green-A grade food or the highest category in any FOPL system, and distinguished from other processed oils or (b) be excluded all together from the NutriScore process and thus not assigned any NutriScore grade.**

The implications on human health that could stem from the use of NutriScore for olive oil, will be a step backwards in the scientific and medical community's efforts to expand the use of olive oil in people's nutrition. The attached White Paper provides the rationale in support of this request.

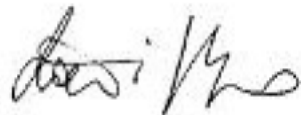
We remain confident that this matter will be considered seriously, as this has major implications on public health and public health policy.

We are at your disposal for further discussion and clarification, as needed.

The co-organizers of the 4th International Yale Symposium on Olive Oil and Health



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Note: This position statement reflects and summarizes the opinion of the Symposium attendees, and not of their affiliated entities.