

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

**Question:** E12-319

**OUTCOME 10:** Population Health

**Topic:** Draft Australian Dietary Guidelines 2011

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Number of pages:** 1

**Senator:** Senator Fierravanti-Wells

**Question:**

Where submissions identified references that had not been reviewed by the Committee, what steps are taken to ensure those sources are adequately assessed?

**Answer:**

All evidence provided or cited during public consultation was reviewed for inclusion or exclusion in the draft *Australian Dietary Guidelines* by the Dietary Guidelines Working Committee, according to an agreed approach to accept and evaluate evidence outside of the *Australian Dietary Guidelines* Systematic Literature Review.

In order to have the guidelines informed by high quality evidence relevant to the Australian context, the criteria were:

- the study must be a high quality randomised controlled trial, intervention, cohort, or observational study, but not an editorial or opinion piece;
- the outcome of the study must relate to health or chronic disease;
- the study results must be generalisable to the Australian population; and
- the study relates to foods or the total diet rather than nutrients.