

General Rules for Nutritional Labeling of Prepackaged Foods (GB 28050–2011) Questions & Answers (Revision)

National Health and Family Planning Commission

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I. Basic Information

(1) Purpose of formulation

Food nutritional labeling is the description which provides consumers with food nutrition information and characteristics, as well as an effective way for consumers to directly understand the food nutrition components and characteristics. In accordance with the relevant regulations of *Food Safety Law*, for the purpose of giving guidance and setting a standard for the marking of food nutritional labeling in China, help consumers choose prepackaged foods reasonably, promote diet nutrient balance and health of the public, and protect the consumer's right to know, right to choose and right to supervise, on the basis of referring to experience of Codex Alimentarius and managerial experience at home and abroad, former Ministry of Health directed in the establishment of *General Rules for the Nutritional Labeling of Prepackaged Foods* (GB 28050–2011), hereinafter referred to as the *Standard for Nutritional Labeling*, which was formally carried into effect as of January 1, 2013.

(2) Significance of the implementation of the *Standard for Nutritional Labeling*

The state nutrition survey result shows that, in China, there is both nutrition deficiency and over nutrition of residents, especially the higher intake of fat and sodium (salt), which is the key factor causing chronic diseases. Through the implementation of the *Standard for Nutritional Labeling*, prepackaged foods are required to mark the nutrition facts. For one thing, this is good for popularizing the knowledge about food nutrition and can help the public choose diets in a scientific way; secondly, this can promote consumers to obtain reasonable and balanced diets and good health; thirdly, this can set a standard for enterprise to correctly mark the nutritional labeling, disseminate the knowledge about nutrition in a scientific way, and promote the healthy development of the food industry.

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