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Glossary and Acronyms

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| AAP | American Academy of Pediatrics |
| Action | Demonstrated effects in various biological systems that may or may not have physiological significance |
| Adverse effect | Any significant alteration in the structure or function of the human organism or any impairment of a physiologically important function that could lead to a health effect that is adverse |
| AI | Adequate Intake |
| AITD | Autoimmune thyroid disease |
| Association | Potential interactions derived from studies (e.g., epidemiological) of the relationship between specific nutrients and specific diseases |
| ASTDR | Agency for Toxic Substance and Diet Registry |
| Bioavailability | Accessibility of a nutrient to participate in unspecified metabolic and/or physiological processes |
| BMI | Body mass index: weight (kg)/height (cm) ² |
| CHD | Coronary heart disease |
| Cr | Elemental symbol for chromium |

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| CRBP | Cellular retinol binding protein |
| CSFII | Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals; a survey conducted periodically by the Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture |
| CV | Coefficient of variation: mean \div standard deviation |
| CVD | Cardiovascular disease |
| DNA | Deoxyribonucleic acid |
| Dose-response assessment | Second step in a risk assessment, in which the relationship between nutrient intake and an adverse effect (in terms of incidence or severity of the effect) is determined |
| DRI | Dietary Reference Intake |
| EAR | Estimated Average Requirement |
| EPA | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| Erythrocyte | Red blood cell |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FASEB | Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology |
| FDA | Food and Drug Administration |
| Fe | Elemental symbol for iron |
| FNB | Food and Nutrition Board |
| Function | Role played by a nutrient in growth, development, and maturation |
| Gravid | Pregnant |
| Hazard identification | First step in a risk assessment, which is concerned with the collection, organization, and evaluation of all information pertaining to the toxic properties of a nutrient |
| HIV | Human immunodeficiency virus |
| HRT | Hormone replacement therapy |

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| IAEA | International Atomic Energy Agency |
| IARC | International Agency for Research on Cancer |
| ICC | Indian childhood cirrhosis |
| ICCIDD | International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders |
| ICT | Idiopathic copper toxicosis |
| IM | Intramuscular |
| IOM | Institute of Medicine |
| IPCS | International Programme on Chemical Safety |
| IR | Insulin receptor |
| IRE | Iron response element |
| IRP | Iron response proteins |
| IU | International units |
| Lacto-ovo-vegetarian | Person who consumes milk (lacto), eggs (ovo), and plant foods and products, but no meat or fish |
| LDL | Low density lipoprotein |
| LMWCr | Low molecular weight chromium-binding substance |
| LOAEL | Lowest-observed-adverse-effect level: lowest intake (or experimental dose) of a nutrient at which an adverse effect has been identified |
| LSRO | Life Sciences Research Office |
| MCH | Mean corpuscular hemoglobin—the amount of hemoglobin in erythrocytes (red blood cells) |
| MCV | Mean corpuscular volume—the volume of the average erythrocyte |
| MI | Myocardial infarction |
| Mn | Elemental symbol for manganese |
| MnSOD | Manganese superoxide dismutase |
| MTF1 | Metal response element transcription factor |

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| NADH | Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide hydride; a coenzyme |
| NHANES | National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey; a survey conducted periodically by the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention |
| NOAEL | No-observed-adverse-effect level; highest intake (or experimental dose) of a nutrient at which no adverse effect has been observed |
| NRC | National Research Council |
| OTA | Office of Technology Assessment |
| Phylloquinone | Plant form of vitamin K and a major form of this vitamin in the human diet |
| Provitamin A carotenoids | α -Carotene, β -carotene, and β -cryptoxanthin |
| RAR | Retinoic acid receptor |
| RDA | Recommended Dietary Allowance |
| RE | Retinol equivalents |
| Risk assessment | Organized framework for evaluating scientific information, which has as its objective a characterization of the nature and likelihood of harm resulting from excess human exposure to an environmental agent (in this case, a nutrient); it includes the development of both qualitative and quantitative expressions of risk |
| Risk characterization | Final step in a risk assessment, which summarizes the conclusions from steps 1 through 3 of the risk assessment (hazard identification, dose response, and estimates of exposure) and evaluates the risk; this step also includes a characterization of the degree of scientific confidence that can be placed in the Tolerable Upper Intake Level |
| Risk management | Process by which risk assessment results are integrated with other information to make decisions about the need for, method of, and extent of risk reduction; in addition, risk management |

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| | considers such issues as the public health significance of the risk, the technical feasibility of achieving various degrees of risk control, and the economic and social costs of this control |
| RNA | Ribonucleic acid |
| RNI | Recommended Nutrient Intake |
| RXR | Retinoid X receptor |
| SD | Standard deviation |
| SE | Standard error |
| SEM | Standard error of the mean |
| SOD | Superoxide dismutase |
| sTfR | Soluble transferrin receptor |
| TDS | Total Diet Study; a study conducted by the Food and Drug Administration |
| TfR | Transferrin receptor |
| Tg | Thyroglobulin |
| Thyrotropin | Glycoprotein hormone that regulates thyroid function |
| TIBC | Total iron binding capacity |
| TPN | Total parenteral nutrition |
| TRH | Thyrotropin-releasing hormone |
| TSH | Thyroid stimulating hormone, also known as thyrotropin |
| UF | Uncertainty factor; number by which the NOAEL (or LOAEL) is divided to obtain the Tolerable Upper Intake Level (UL); the size of the UF varies depending on the confidence in the data and the nature of the adverse effect |
| UL | Tolerable Upper Intake Level |
| USDA | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
| VLDL | Very low density lipoprotein |
| WHO | World Health Organization |