

Draft report *Feeding in the First Year of Life*: Scientific consultation

Consultation period: 10am 19 July to 5pm 13 September 2017

The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) consultation on its draft report, *Feeding in the First Year of Life*, is open for scientific comment.

You are invited to submit comments relating to the scientific content of the report. You are also invited to draw the Committee's attention to any evidence that it may have missed.

TO NOTE:

This is not a consultation on the Joint SACN - COT Statement: ['Assessing the health benefits and risks of the introduction of peanut and hen's egg into the infant diet before six months of age in the UK'](#).

Any comments should be restricted to the scientific evidence that has been reviewed in the draft report '*Feeding in the First Year of Life*' and the interpretation of this evidence.

Review inclusion criteria

Please ensure that any evidence you bring to SACN's attention meets the [SACN Framework for Evaluation of Evidence](#) (SACN, 2012). The key inclusion criteria for the review were:

Publication date:

- Studies published since 1994 to end 2015 have been considered in the report (however contributions and comments can include studies published after 2015).

Study type:

- Systematic reviews
- Randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and prospective cohort studies, where available. Cross sectional studies and case reports if they inform the interpretation of the evidence.

Submission of scientific comment and evidence:

Any scientific comments or evidence for consideration by SACN should be emailed to the SACN secretariat at sacn@phe.gov.uk by **5pm on 13 September 2017**.

All responses will be published following the conclusion of the consultation.

Background

There has been no comprehensive risk assessment of infant and young child feeding in the UK since the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy (COMA) published its report 'Weaning and The Weaning Diet' in 1994. A number of recommendations made by the SACN and by international expert committees since the COMA 1994 review have carried implications for current infant feeding policy.

SACN therefore requested its Subgroup on Maternal and Child Nutrition to review recent developments in this area. To complement this work, the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT) was asked by the Department of Health (DH) to conduct a review of the risks of toxicity from chemicals in the infant diet, and examine the evidence relating to the influence of the infant diet on development of food allergy, and atopic and auto-immune disease. This draft report covers 0-12 months.