

The WHO Collaborating Centre on Population Salt Reduction (WHO CC SALT) has a global remit with a focus on Australia, the Western Pacific and South East Asian Regions. It is currently involved in projects in Australia, the Pacific Islands, Mongolia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, China and India.

WHO CC SALT is working with the World Health Organization to develop a range of tools and resources to support countries to develop and implement salt reduction strategies.

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Dr. Jacqui Webster is supported by a co-funded NHMRC and National Heart Foundation Career Development Fellowship on international strategies to reduce salt 2015-18.

WHO CC SALT, in collaboration with the Canadian Stroke Network, produces weekly newsletters featuring summaries of relevant Medline-retrieved articles related to dietary sodium. To subscribe, please sign up [here](#).

WHO CC SALT also collaborated with WHO to produce the SHAKE Package for Salt Reduction which can be accessed [here](#).

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Or visit our web-site at:
[WHO CC Population Salt Reduction](#)

You can also follow us on twitter:
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MONTHLY UPDATE

This email update is intended to help people stay up to date with new information on salt reduction initiatives to support WHO Member States achieve a global target of a 30% relative reduction in mean population salt intake by 2025.

Please feel free to send us updates on salt reduction activities in your country that you would like to share in our upcoming bulletins.

SALT REDUCTION NEWS

World Salt Awareness Week 2017

- ◆ This year World Salt Awareness Week will be held from the 20th to 26th of March, with the theme 'Salt: The Forgotten Killer.' The World Action on Salt and Health (WASH) will be calling on the food and drink industry to start or continue their reformulation efforts to meet national salt reduction targets; governments to take more action in introducing or implementing targets, and; the public to make changes to their dietary habits. Resources and campaign materials will be available on the [WASH website](#) soon.

WHO Nutrient Profile Model for the Western Pacific Region

- ◆ The World Health Organization Western Pacific Regional Office (WHO-WPRO) recently published a tool to protect children from marketing of unhealthy foods and non-alcoholic beverages. The **Regional Nutrient Profile Model** aims to aid countries in identifying foods that are commonly marketed to children—through media including television, radio, newspapers, billboards and banners—that should be prohibited. The model includes nutrient thresholds for total fat, total sugar, added sugar, non-sugar sweetener, energy, saturated fat and sodium for 18 food categories. The model also identifies three food categories for which marketing should be restricted to children. For more information, please click [here](#).

ASTHO Issue Brief on Food Service Industry Partnerships

- ◆ The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) published an issue brief which highlights insights for state health agencies around working with food service management companies (FSMCs), developing food service guidelines and improving industry partnerships. The insights were generated through interview of FSMCs, survey of state chronic disease directors, and virtual roundtable discussions. Six main areas for state health agencies to consider were identified including consumer demand and taste, food safety, partnership development, product availability, revenue, and training and technical assistance. The full issue brief can be accessed [here](#).

RESEARCH

Cost-effectiveness of a government policy to reduce sodium intake

- ◆ A recent study by Webb et al (2017) published in *The BMJ* modelled the effects and costs of a government policy that combines targeted industry agreements and public education to reduce sodium intake in 183 countries. Intervention costs for each country were assessed using the WHO-CHOICE (**CHO**osing Interventions that are **Cost-Effective**) database, while country-specific effects on mortality and disability adjusted life years (DALYs) were modelled using comparative risk assessment. The study also evaluated a range of intervention effectiveness including 10%, 30%, 0.5g/day and 1.5g/day reductions in sodium intake over 10 years. Analyses showed that modest reductions in sodium intake (10% or 0.5g/day) were highly cost-effective even without accounting for potential healthcare savings, and achieving larger targets (30% or 1.5g/day) would be more cost-effective. For more information, please click [here](#).

OTHER NEWS

Invitation to contribute to Special Issue of Nutrients

- ◆ The journal *Nutrients* is currently inviting submissions for a Special Issue entitled 'Reducing Dietary Sodium and Improving Health.' This Special Issue welcomes the submission of manuscripts either describing original research or reviewing scientific literature related to salt reduction. Dr Jacqui Webster from the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Population Salt Reduction at the George Institute is serving as Guest Editor for this issue. The submission deadline is 15 June 2017. For more information, please click [here](#).

Lastly, we would like to request for your time to complete a short evaluation of the newsletter and the work of WHO CC on Population Salt Reduction through this [link](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or if there is anything that we can do to support you in your efforts to achieve reductions in salt intake. We hope that you enjoyed the monthly update, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Jacqui Webster
Centre Director
World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Population Salt Reduction

