

Directions to Contributors

Public Health Nutrition

(Revised August 2014)

Public Health Nutrition (PHN) provides an international, peer-reviewed forum for the publication and dissemination of research with a specific focus on nutrition-related public health. The Journal publishes original and commissioned articles, high quality meta-analyses and reviews, commentaries and discussion papers for debate, as well as special issues. It also seeks to identify and publish special supplements on major topics of interest to readers.

SCOPE

The scope of *Public Health Nutrition* includes multi-level determinants of dietary intake and patterns, anthropometry, food systems, and their effects on health-related outcomes. We welcome papers that:

- Address **monitoring and surveillance** of nutritional status and nutritional environments in communities or populations at risk
- Identify and analyse behavioral, sociocultural, economic, political, and environmental **determinants of nutrition-related public health**
- Develop **methodology** needed for assessment and monitoring
- Inform efforts to improve **communication of nutrition-related information**
- **Build workforce capacity** for effective public health nutrition action
- Evaluate or discuss the effectiveness of **food and nutrition policies**
- Describe the development, implementation, and evaluation of **innovative interventions and programs** to address nutrition-related problems
- Relate diet and nutrition to **sustainability** of the environment and food systems

Papers that do not fall within the scope as described above may be directed to more appropriate journals. We prefer papers that are innovative (do not repeat research already undertaken elsewhere) and relevant to an international readership.

ARTICLE TYPES

PHN publishes Research Articles, Short Communications, Review Articles, Letters to the Editors, Commentaries and Editorials. Research Articles, Short Communications and Review Articles should be submitted to <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/phnutr>. Please contact the Editorial Office on phn.edoffice@cambridge.org regarding any other types of submission.

A typical paper should be no more than 5000 words long, not including the abstract, references, tables, figures and acknowledgements. Papers submitted as Short Communications should consist of no more than 2000 words, plus a maximum of 3 tables OR figures.

For systematic reviews and meta-analyses, the journal endorses the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) Statement (see British Medical Journal (2009) 339, b2535). Such submissions should follow the [PRISMA guidelines](#).

Letters or commentaries are welcome that discuss, criticise or develop themes put forward in papers published in PHN or that deal with matters relevant to it. They should not be used as a means of publishing new work. Acceptance will be at the discretion of the Editorial Board, and editorial changes may be required. Wherever possible, letters from responding authors will be included in the same issue.

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS

PHN uses [ScholarOne Manuscripts](#) for online submission and peer review. As part of the online submission process, authors are asked to affirm that the submission represents original work that has not been

published previously; that it is not currently being considered by another journal; and that each author has seen and approved the contents of the submitted manuscript.

At submission, authors must nominate at least four potential referees who may be asked by the Editorial Board to help review the work. PHN uses a double-blind review process, and manuscripts are normally reviewed by two external peer reviewers and a member of the Editorial Board.

Revisions must be resubmitted within 2 months or they will be deemed a new paper. When substantial revisions are required after review, authors are normally given the opportunity to do this once only; the need for any further changes should reflect only minor issues.

PUBLISHING ETHICS

PHN adheres to the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\) guidelines](#) on research and publications ethics. The Journal considers all manuscripts on the strict condition that:

- 1) The manuscript is your own original work, and does not duplicate any previously published work;
- 2) The manuscript has been submitted only to the journal - it is not under consideration or peer review or accepted for publication or in press or published elsewhere;
- 3) All listed authors know of and agree to the manuscript being submitted to the journal; and
- 4) The manuscript contains nothing abusive, defamatory, fraudulent, illegal, libellous, or obscene.

Text taken directly or closely paraphrased from earlier published work that has not been acknowledged or referenced will be considered plagiarism. Submitted manuscripts in which such text is identified will be withdrawn from the editorial process. Any concerns raised about possible plagiarism or other violations of ethical guidelines in an article submitted to or published in PHN will be investigated fully and dealt with in accordance with the COPE guidelines.

DETAILED MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

Language

Papers submitted for publication must be written in English and should be as concise as possible. We recommend that authors have their manuscript checked by an English language native speaker before submission, to ensure that submissions are judged at peer review exclusively on academic merit.

We list a [number of third-party services](#) specialising in language editing and / or translation, and suggest that authors contact as appropriate. Use of any of these services is voluntary, and at the author's own expense.

Spelling should generally be that of the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* (1995), 9th ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Authors are advised to consult a current issue in order to make themselves familiar with PHN as to typographical and other conventions, layout of tables etc.

Authorship

The Journal conforms to the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\)](#) definition of authorship. Authorship credit should be based on:

1. Substantial contributions to conception and design, data acquisition, analysis and/or interpretation;
2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
3. Final approval of the version to be published.

The contribution of individuals who were involved in the study but do not meet these criteria should be described in the Acknowledgments section.

Ethical standards

All submissions must abide by the guidelines in the World Medical Association (2000) Declaration of Helsinki: Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects, with notes of clarification of 2002 and 2004 (<http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/>), the Guidelines on the Practice of Ethics Committees Involved in Medical Research Involving Human Subjects (3rd ed., 1996; London: The Royal College of Physicians) and the Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Medical Research Involving

Children, revised in 2000 by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health: Ethics Advisory Committee (Arch Dis Child (2000) 82, 177–182).

Cover Letter

Authors are invited to submit a cover letter including a short explanation of how the article advances the field of public health nutrition in terms of research, practice, or policy, and of its relevance to an international readership. The text for the cover letter should be entered in the appropriate box as part of the online submission process.

Title Page

Authors must submit a title page online **as a separate file to their manuscript**, to enable double-blind reviewing. For the same reason, the information on the title page should **not** be included in the manuscript itself. The title page should include:

1. The title of the article;
2. Authors' names, given without titles or degrees;
3. Name and address of department(s) and institution(s) to which the work should be attributed for each author, with each author's institution(s) identified by a superscript number (e.g. A.B. Smith¹);
4. Name, mailing address, email address, telephone and fax numbers of the author responsible for correspondence about the manuscript;
5. A shortened version of the title, not exceeding 45 characters (including letters and spaces) in length;
6. Disclosure statements, as outlined below. These must be included on the title page and **not in the manuscript file**, to enable double-blind reviewing; if the paper is accepted, they will be inserted into the manuscript during production.

Acknowledgments

Here you may acknowledge individuals or organizations that provided advice and/or support (non-financial). Formal financial support and funding should be listed in the following section.

Financial Support

Please provide details of the sources of financial support for all authors, including grant numbers. For example, "This work was supported by the Medical research Council (grant number XXXXXXXX)". Multiple grant numbers should be separated by a comma and space, and where research was funded by more than one agency the different agencies should be separated by a semi-colon, with "and" before the final funder. Grants held by different authors should be identified as belonging to individual authors by the authors' initials. For example, "This work was supported by the Wellcome Trust (A.B., grant numbers XXXX, YYYY), (C.D., grant number ZZZZ); the Natural Environment Research Council (E.F., grant number FFFF); and the National Institutes of Health (A.B., grant number GGGG), (E.F., grant number HHHH)".

This disclosure is particularly important in the case of research supported by industry, including not only direct financial support for the study but also support in kind such as provision of medications, equipment, kits or reagents without charge or at reduced cost and provision of services such as statistical analysis. **All such support**, financial and in kind, should be disclosed here.

Where no specific funding has been provided for research, please provide the following statement: "This research received no specific grant from any funding agency, commercial or not-for-profit sectors."

In addition to the source of financial support, please state whether the funder contributed to the study design, conduct of the study, analysis of samples or data, interpretation of findings or the preparation of the manuscript. If the funder made no such contribution, please provide the following statement: "[Funder's name] had no role in the design, analysis or writing of this article."

Conflict of Interest

Conflict of interest exists when an author has interests that might inappropriately influence his or her judgement, even if that judgement is not influenced. Because of this, authors must disclose potentially conflicting interests so that others can make judgements about such effects. Please provide details of all known financial and non-financial (professional and personal) relationships with the potential to bias the work. Where no known conflicts of interest exist, please include the following statement: "None."

For more information on what constitutes a conflict of interest, please see the [ICMJE guidelines](#).

Authorship

Please provide a very brief description of the contribution of each author to the research. Their roles in formulating the research question(s), designing the study, carrying it out, analysing the data and writing the article should be made plain.

Ethical Standards Disclosure

Manuscripts describing experiments involving human subjects must include the following statement: "This study was conducted according to the guidelines laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki and all procedures involving human subjects/patients were approved by the [name of the ethics committee]. Written [or Verbal] informed consent was obtained from all subjects/patients." Where verbal consent was obtained, this must be followed by a statement such as: "Verbal consent was witnessed and formally recorded."

Manuscript Format

The requirements of PHN are in accordance with the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals produced by the ICMJE, and authors are encouraged to consult the [latest guidelines](#), which contain useful, general information about preparing scientific papers. Authors should also consult the [CONSORT guidelines](#) for reporting results of randomised trials.

For detailed instructions regarding **mathematical modelling**, **statistical analysis** and **nomenclature requirements**, please refer to the [Appendix](#) to these instructions.

Typescripts should be prepared with 1.5 line spacing and wide margins (2 cm), the preferred font being Times New Roman size 12. At the ends of lines, words should not be hyphenated unless hyphens are to be printed. **Line numbering and page numbering are required.**

Manuscripts should be organised as follows:

Abstract

Each paper must open with a structured abstract of **not more than 250 words**. The abstract should consist of the following headings: Objective, Design, Setting, Subjects, Results, Conclusions. All the headings should be used, and there should be a separate paragraph for each one. The abstract should be intelligible without reference to text or figures.

Keywords

Authors should list at least four keywords or phrases (each containing up to three words).

Introduction

It is not necessary to introduce a paper with a full account of the relevant literature, but the introduction should indicate briefly the nature of the question asked and the reasons for asking it.

Methods

For manuscripts describing experiments involving human subjects, the required ethical standards disclosure statement must be included **on the title page only** as described above. It will then be inserted into this section of the manuscript during production.

Results

These should be given as concisely as possible, using figures or tables as appropriate. Data should not be duplicated in tables and figures.

Discussion

While it is generally desirable that the presentation of the results and the discussion of their significance should be presented separately, there may be occasions when combining these sections may be beneficial. Authors may also find that additional or alternative sections such as 'conclusions' may be useful.

References

References should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they first appear in the text using superscript Arabic numerals in parentheses, e.g. 'The conceptual difficulty of this approach has recently been highlighted^(1,2-4)'. If a reference is cited more than once, the same number should be used each time. References cited only in tables and figure legends should be numbered in sequence from the last number used in the text and in the order of mention of the individual tables and figures in the text. Names and initials of authors of unpublished work should be given in the text as 'unpublished results' and not included in the References.

At the end of the paper, on a page(s) separate from the text, references should be listed in numerical order using the Vancouver system. When an article has more than three authors only the names of the first three authors should be given followed by 'et al.' The issue number should be omitted if there is continuous pagination throughout a volume. Titles of journals should appear in their abbreviated form using the [NCBI LinkOut page](#). References to books and monographs should include the town of publication and the number of the edition to which reference is made. References to material available on websites should include the full Internet address, and the date of the version cited.

Examples of correct forms of references are given below.

Journal articles

1. Setchell KD, Faughnan MS, Avades T *et al.* (2003) Comparing the pharmacokinetics of daidzein and genistein with the use of ¹³C-labeled tracers in premenopausal women. *Am J Clin Nutr* **77**, 411–419.
2. Barker DJ, Winter PD, Osmond C *et al.* (1989) Weight in infancy and death from ischaemic heart disease. *Lancet* **ii**, 577–580.
3. Forchielli ML & Walker WA (2005) The role of gut-associated lymphoid tissues and mucosal defence. *Br J Nutr* **93**, Suppl. 1, S41–S48.
4. Skurk T, Herder C, Kraft I *et al.* (2004) Production and release of macrophage migration inhibitory factor from human adipocytes. *Endocrinology* (Epublication ahead of print version).

Books and monographs

5. Bradbury J (2002) Dietary intervention in edentulous patients. PhD Thesis, University of Newcastle.
6. Ailhaud G & Hauner H (2004) Development of white adipose tissue. In *Handbook of Obesity. Etiology and Pathophysiology*, 2nd ed., pp. 481–514 [GA Bray and C Bouchard, editors]. New York: Marcel Dekker.
7. Bruinsma J (editor) (2003) *World Agriculture towards 2015/2030: An FAO Perspective*. London: Earthscan Publications.
8. World Health Organization (2003) *Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Chronic Diseases. Joint WHO/FAO Expert Consultation. WHO Technical Report Series no. 916*. Geneva: WHO.
9. Keiding L (1997) *Astma, Allergi og Anden Overfølsomhed i Danmark – Og Udviklingen 1987–1991 (Asthma, Allergy and Other Hypersensitivities in Denmark, 1987–1991)*. Copenhagen, Denmark: Dansk Institut for Klinisk Epidemiologi.

Sources from the internet

10. Nationmaster (2005) HIV AIDS – Adult prevalence rate. http://www.nationmaster.com/graph-T/hea_hiv_aid_adu_pre_rat (accessed June 2013).

Tables

Tables should be placed in the main manuscript file at the end of the document, not within the main text. Be sure that each table is cited in the text. Tables should carry headings describing their content and should be comprehensible without reference to the text. Tables should not be subdivided by ruled lines.

The dimensions of the values, e.g. mg/kg, should be given at the top of each column. Separate columns should be used for measures of variance (SD, SE etc.), the ± sign should not be used. The number of decimal places used should be standardized; for whole numbers 1.0, 2.0 etc. should be used. Shortened forms of the words weight (wt) and height (ht) may be used to save space in tables.

Footnotes are given in the following order: (1) abbreviations, (2) superscript letters, (3) symbols. Abbreviations are given in the format: RS, resistant starch. Abbreviations in tables must be defined in footnotes in the order that they appear in the table (reading from left to right across the table, then down each column). Symbols for footnotes should be used in the sequence: * † ‡ § || ¶, then ** etc. (omit * or †, or both, from the sequence if they are used to indicate levels of significance).

For indicating statistical significance, superscript letters or symbols may be used. Superscript letters are useful where comparisons are within a row or column and the level of significance is uniform, e.g. ^{a,b,c}Mean values within a column with unlike superscript letters were significantly different ($P < 0.05$). Symbols are useful for indicating significant differences between rows or columns, especially where different levels of significance are found, e.g. 'Mean values were significantly different from those of the control group: * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$ '. The symbols used for P values in the tables must be consistent.

Figures

Figures should be supplied as separate electronic files. Figure legends should be grouped in a section at the end of the manuscript text. Each figure should be clearly marked with its number and separate panels within figures should be clearly marked (a), (b), (c) etc. so that they are easily identifiable when the article and

figure files are merged for review. Each figure, with its legend, should be comprehensible without reference to the text and should include definitions of abbreviations.

We recommend that only TIFF, EPS or PDF formats are used for electronic artwork. Other formats (e.g., JPG, PPT and GIF files and images created in Microsoft Word) are usable but generally NOT suitable for conversion to print reproduction. For further information about how to prepare your figures, including sizing and resolution requirements, please see our [artwork guide](#).

In curves presenting experimental results the determined points should be clearly shown, the symbols used being, in order of preference, ○, ●, △, ▲, □, ■, ×, +. Curves and symbols should not extend beyond the experimental points. Scale-marks on the axes should be on the inner side of each axis and should extend beyond the last experimental point. Ensure that lines and symbols used in graphs and shading used in histograms are large enough to be easily identified when the figure size is reduced to fit the printed page.

Colour figures will be published online free of charge, and there is a fee of £300 per figure for colour figures in the printed version. If you request colour figures in the printed version, you will be contacted by CCC-Rightlink who are acting on our behalf to collect colour charges. Please follow their instructions in order to avoid any delay in the publication of your article.

Supplementary material

Additional data (e.g. data sets, large tables) relevant to the paper can be submitted for publication online only, where they are made available via a link from the paper. The paper should stand alone without these data. Supplementary Material must be cited in a relevant place in the text of the paper.

Although Supplementary Material is peer reviewed, it is not checked, copyedited or typeset after acceptance and it is loaded onto the journal's website exactly as supplied. You should check your Supplementary Material carefully to ensure that it adheres to journal styles. Corrections cannot be made to the Supplementary Material after acceptance of the manuscript. Please bear this in mind when deciding what content to include as Supplementary Material.

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Accepted Manuscripts

PDF proofs are sent to authors in order to make sure that the paper has been correctly set up in type. Only changes to errors induced by typesetting/copy-editing or typographical errors will be accepted. Corrected proofs should be returned within 2 days by email to Gill Watling at gillwatling@btinternet.com. If corrected proofs are not received from authors within 7 days the paper may be published as it stands.

Offprints

A PDF file of the paper will be supplied free of charge to the corresponding author of each paper, and offprints may be ordered on the order form sent with the proofs.

CONTACT

Prospective authors may contact the Editorial Office directly on +44 (0) 1223 327954 (telephone) or phn.edoffice@cambridge.org (email).

Additionally, more information about the journal, including recent issues, can be found at <http://journals.cambridge.org/phn>.

APPENDIX: MATHEMATICAL MODELLING, STATISTICS AND NOMENCLATURE

Mathematical modelling of nutritional processes

Papers in which mathematical modelling of nutritional processes forms the principal element will be considered for publication provided: (a) they are based on sound biological and mathematical principles; (b) they advance nutritional concepts or identify new avenues likely to lead to such advances; (c) assumptions used in their construction are fully described and supported by appropriate argument; (d) they are described in such a way that the nutritional purpose is clearly apparent; (e) the contribution of the model to the design of future experimentation is clearly defined.

Units

Results should be presented in metric units according to the International System of Units (see Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry, 3rd ed. (2007) Cambridge: RSC Publishing), and Metric Units, Conversion Factors and Nomenclature in Nutritional and Food Sciences (1972) London: The Royal Society – as reproduced in *Proceedings of the Nutrition Society* (1972) **31**, 239–247). SI units should be used throughout the paper. The author will be asked to convert any values that are given in any other form. The only exception is where there is a unique way of expressing a particular variable that is in widespread use. Energy values must be given in Joules (MJ or kJ) using the conversion factor 1 kcal = 4.184 kJ. If required by the author, the value in kcal can be given afterwards in parentheses. Temperature is given in degrees Celsius (°C). Vitamins should be given as mg or µg, not as IU.

For substances of known molecular mass (Da) or relative molecular mass, e.g. glucose, urea, Ca, Na, Fe, K, P, values should be expressed as mol/l; for substances of indeterminate molecular mass (Da) or relative molecular mass, e.g. phospholipids, proteins, and for trace elements, e.g. Cu, Zn, then g/l should be used.

The 24 h clock should be used, e.g. 15.00 hours.

Units are: year, month, week, d, h, min, s, kg, g, mg, µg, litre, ml, µl, fl. To avoid misunderstandings, the word litre should be used in full, except in terms like g/l. Radioactivity should be given in becquerels (Bq or GBq) not in Ci. 1 MBq = 27.03 µCi (1Bq = 1 disintegration/s).

Statistical treatment of results

Data from individual replicates should not be given for large experiments, but may be given for small studies. The methods of statistical analysis used should be described, and references to statistical analysis packages included in the text, thus: Statistical Analysis Systems statistical software package version 6.11 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA). Information such as analysis of variance tables should be given in the paper only if they are relevant to the discussion. A statement of the number of replicates, their average value and some appropriate measure of variability is usually sufficient.

Comparisons between means can be made by using either confidence intervals (CI) or significance tests. The most appropriate of such measures is usually the standard error of a difference between means (SED), or the standard errors of the means (SE or SEM) when these vary between means. The standard deviation (SD) is more useful only when there is specific interest in the variability of individual values. The degrees of freedom (df) associated with SED, SEM or SD should also be stated. The number of decimal places quoted should be sufficient but not excessive. Note that pH is an exponential number, as are the log(10) values often quoted for microbial numbers. Statistics should be carried out on the scalar rather than the exponential values.

If comparisons between means are made using CI, the format for presentation is, e.g. 'difference between means 0.73 (95 % CI 0.314, 1.36) g'. If significance tests are used, a statement that the difference between the means for two groups of values is (or is not) statistically significant should include the level of significance attained, preferably as an explicit P value (e.g. P=0.016 or P=0.32) rather than as a range (e.g. P<0.05 or P>0.05). It should be stated whether the significance levels quoted are one-sided or two-sided. Where a multiple comparison procedure is used, a description or explicit reference should be given. Where appropriate, a superscript notation may be used in tables to denote levels of significance; similar superscripts should denote lack of a significant difference.

Where the method of analysis is unusual, or if the experimental design is at all complex, further details (e.g. experimental plan, raw data, confirmation of assumptions, analysis of variance tables, etc.) should be included.

Chemical formulas

These should be written as far as possible on a single horizontal line. With inorganic substances, formulas may be used from first mention. With salts, it must be stated whether or not the anhydrous material is used, e.g. anhydrous CuSO₄, or which of the different crystalline forms is meant, e.g. CuSO₄·5H₂O, CuSO₄·H₂O.

Descriptions of solutions, compositions and concentrations

Solutions of common acids, bases and salts should be defined in terms of molarity (M), e.g. 0.1 M-NaH₂PO₄. Compositions expressed as mass per unit mass (w/w) should have values expressed as ng, µg, mg or g per kg; similarly for concentrations expressed as mass per unit volume (w/v), the denominator being the litre. If concentrations or compositions are expressed as a percentage, the basis for the composition should be specified (e.g. % (w/w) or % (w/v) etc.). The common measurements used in nutritional studies, e.g. digestibility, biological value and net protein utilization, should be expressed as decimals rather than as percentages, so that amounts of available nutrients can be obtained from analytical results by direct multiplication. See *Metric Units, Conversion Factors and Nomenclature in Nutritional and Food Sciences*. London: The Royal Society, 1972 (para. 8).

Gene nomenclature and symbols

The use of symbols and nomenclature recommended by the [HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee](#) is encouraged. Information on human genes is also available from [Entrez Gene](#), on mouse genes from the [Mouse Genome Database](#) and on rat genes from the [Rat Genome Database](#).

Nomenclature of vitamins

Most of the names for vitamins and related compounds that are accepted by the Editors are those recommended by the IUNS Committee on Nomenclature. See *Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews* (1978) **48A**, 831–835.

Acceptable name	Other names*
Vitamin A	
Retinol	Vitamin A ₁
Retinaldehyde, retinal	Retinene
Retinoic acid (all-trans or 13-cis)	Vitamin A ₁ acid
3-Dehydroretinol	Vitamin A ₂
Vitamin D	
Ergocalciferol, ercalciol	Vitamin D ₂ calciferol
Cholecalciferol, calciol	Vitamin D ₃
Vitamin E	
α-, β- and γ-tocopherols plus tocotrienols	
Vitamin K	
Phylloquinone	Vitamin K ₁
Menaquinone-n (MK-n)†	Vitamin K ₂
Menadione	Vitamin K ₃ , menaquinone, menaphthone
Vitamin B₁	
Thiamin	Aneurin(e), thiamine
Vitamin B₂	
Riboflavin	Vitamin G, riboflavine, lactoflavin
Niacin	
Nicotinamide	Vitamin PP
Nicotinic acid	
Folic Acid	
Pteroyl(mono)glutamic acid	Folacin, vitamin B _c or M
Vitamin B₆	
Pyridoxine	Pyridoxol
Pyridoxal	
Pyridoxamine	
Vitamin B₁₂	
Cyanocobalamin	

Hydroxocobalamin	Vitamin B _{12a} or B _{12b}
Aquocobalamin	
Methylcobalamin	
Adenosylcobalamin	
<i>Inositol</i>	
<i>Myo</i> -inositol	<i>Meso</i> -inositol
<i>Choline</i>	
<i>Pantothenic acid</i>	
<i>Biotin</i>	Vitamin H
<i>Vitamin C</i>	
Ascorbic acid	
Dehydroascorbic acid	

*Including some names that are still in use elsewhere, but are not used by PHN.

†Details of the nomenclature for these and other naturally-occurring quinones should follow the Tentative Rules of the IUPAC-IUB Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature (see *European Journal of Biochemistry* (1975) **53**, 15–18).

The terms **vitamin A**, **vitamin C** and **vitamin D** may still be used where appropriate, for example in phrases such as 'vitamin A deficiency', 'vitamin D activity'.

The term **vitamin E** should be used as the descriptor for all tocol and tocotrienol derivatives exhibiting qualitatively the biological activity of α -tocopherol. The term **tocopherols** should be used as the generic descriptor for all methyl tocols. Thus, the term **tocopherol** is not synonymous with the term **vitamin E**.

The term **vitamin K** should be used as the generic descriptor for 2-methyl-1,4-naphthoquinone (menaphthone) and all derivatives exhibiting qualitatively the biological activity of phyloquinone (phytylmenaquinone).

The term **niacin** should be used as the generic descriptor for pyridine 3-carboxylic acid and derivatives exhibiting qualitatively the biological activity of nicotinamide.

The term **vitamin B₆** should be used as the generic descriptor for all 2-methylpyridine derivatives exhibiting qualitatively the biological activity of pyridoxine.

Regarding **folate**, due to the wide range of C-substituted, unsubstituted, oxidized, reduced and mono- or polyglutamyl side-chain derivatives of pteroylmonoglutamic acid that exist in nature, it is not possible to provide a complete list. Authors are encouraged to use either the generic name or the correct scientific name(s) of the derivative(s), as appropriate for each circumstance.

The term **vitamin B₁₂** should be used as the generic descriptor for all corrinoids exhibiting qualitatively the biological activity of cyanocobalamin. The term **corrinoids** should be used as the generic descriptor for all compounds containing the corrin nucleus and thus chemically related to cyanocobalamin. The term **corrinoid** is not synonymous with the term **vitamin B₁₂**.

The terms **ascorbic acid** and **dehydroascorbic acid** will normally be taken as referring to the naturally-occurring L-forms. If the subject matter includes other optical isomers, authors are encouraged to include the L- or D- prefixes, as appropriate. The same is true for all those vitamins which can exist in both natural and alternative isomeric forms.

Weight units are acceptable for the amounts of vitamins in foods and diets. For concentrations in biological tissues, SI units should be used; however, the authors may, if they wish, also include other units, such as weights or international units, in parentheses. See *Metric Units, Conversion Factors and Nomenclature in Nutritional and Food Sciences* (1972) paras 8 and 14–20. London: The Royal Society.

Nomenclature of fatty acids and lipids

In the description of results obtained for the analysis of fatty acids by conventional GLC, the shorthand designation proposed by Farquhar JW, Insull W, Rosen P, Stoffel W & Ahrens EH (*Nutrition Reviews* (1959), **17**, Suppl.) for individual fatty acids should be used in the text, tables and figures. Thus, 18 : 1 should be used to represent a fatty acid with eighteen carbon atoms and one double bond; if the position and configuration of the double bond is unknown. The shorthand designation should also be used in the abstract. If the positions and configurations of the double bonds are known, and these are important to the discussion,

then a fatty acid such as linoleic acid may be referred to as *cis*-9,*cis*-12-18 : 2 (positions of double bonds related to the carboxyl carbon atom 1). However, to illustrate the metabolic relationship between different unsaturated fatty acid families, it is sometimes more helpful to number the double bonds in relation to the terminal methyl carbon atom, *n*. The preferred nomenclature is then: 18 : 3*n*-3 and 18 : 3*n*-6 for α -linolenic and γ -linolenic acids respectively; 18 : 2*n*-6 and 20 : 4*n*-6 for linoleic and arachidonic acids respectively and 18 : 1*n*-9 for oleic acid. Positional isomers such as α - and γ -linolenic acid should always be clearly distinguished. It is assumed that the double bonds are methylene-interrupted and are of the *cis*-configuration (see Holman RT in *Progress in the Chemistry of Fats and Other Lipids* (1966) vol. 9, part 1, p. 3. Oxford: Pergamon Press). Groups of fatty acids that have a common chain length but vary in their double bond content or double bond position should be referred to, for example, as C₂₀ fatty acids or C₂₀ PUFA. The modern nomenclature for glycerol esters should be used, i.e. triacylglycerol, diacylglycerol, monoacylglycerol *not* triglyceride, diglyceride, monoglyceride. The form of fatty acids used in diets should be clearly stated, i.e. whether ethyl esters, natural or refined fats or oils. The composition of the fatty acids in the dietary fat and tissue fats should be stated clearly, expressed as mol/100 mol or g/100 g total fatty acids.

Nomenclature of micro-organisms

The correct name of the organism, conforming with international rules of nomenclature, should be used. If desired, synonyms may be added in parentheses when the name is first mentioned. Names of bacteria should conform to the current Bacteriological Code and the opinions issued by the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology. Names of algae and fungi must conform to the current International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. Names of protozoa should conform to the current International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

Nomenclature of plants

For plant species where a common name is used that may not be universally intelligible, the Latin name in italics should follow the first mention of the common name. The cultivar should be given where appropriate.

Other nomenclature, symbols and abbreviations

Authors should consult recent issues of PHN for guidance. The IUPAC rules on chemical nomenclature should be followed, and the recommendations of the Nomenclature Committee of IUBMB and the IUPAC-IUBMB Joint Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature and Nomenclature Commission of IUBMB in *Biochemical Nomenclature and Related Documents* (1992), 2nd ed., London: Portland Press (<http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iupac/bibliog/white.html>). The symbols and abbreviations, other than units, are essentially those listed in *British Standard 5775* (1979–1982), *Specifications for Quantities, Units and Symbols*, parts 0–13. Day should be abbreviated to d, for example 7 d, except for 'each day', '7th day' and 'day 1'.

Elements and simple chemicals (e.g. Fe and CO₂) can be referred to by their chemical symbol (with the exception of arsenic and iodine, which should be written in full) or formula from the first mention in the text; the title, text and table headings, and figure legends can be taken as exceptions. Well-known abbreviations for chemical substances may be used without explanation, thus: RNA for ribonucleic acid and DNA for deoxyribonucleic acid. Other substances that are mentioned frequently (five or more times) may also be abbreviated, the abbreviation being placed in parentheses at the first mention, thus: lipoprotein lipase (LPL), after that, LPL, and an alphabetical list of abbreviations used should be included. Only accepted abbreviations may be used in the title and text headings. If an author's initials are mentioned in the text, they should be distinguished from other abbreviations by the use of stops, e.g. 'one of us (P. J. H.)...'. For UK counties the official names given in the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* (1995) should be used and for states of the USA two-letter abbreviations should be used, e.g. MA (not Mass.) and IL (not Ill.). Terms such as 'bioavailability' or 'available' may be used providing that the use of the term is adequately defined.

Spectrophotometric terms and symbols are those proposed in *IUPAC Manual of Symbols and Terminology for Physicochemical Quantities and Units* (1979) London: Butterworths. The attention of authors is particularly drawn to the following symbols: m (milli, 10³), μ (micro, 10⁶), n (nano, 10⁹) and p (pico, 10¹²). Note also that ml (millilitre) should be used instead of cc, μm (micrometre) instead of μ (micron) and μg (microgram) instead of γ .

Numerals should be used with units, for example, 10 g, 7 d, 4 years (except when beginning a sentence, thus: 'Four years ago...'); otherwise, words (except when 100 or more), thus: one man, ten ewes, ninety-nine flasks, three times (but with decimal, 2.5 times), 100 patients, 120 cows, 136 samples.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are accepted without definition by PHN:

ADP (GDP)	adenosine (guanosine) 5'-disphosphate
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
AMP (GMP)	adenosine (guanosine) 5'-monophosphate
ANCOVA	analysis of covariance
ANOVA	analysis of variance
apo	apolipoprotein
ATP (GTP)	adenosine (guanosine) 5'-triphosphate
AUC	area under the curve
BMI	body mass index
BMR	basal metabolic rate
bp	base pair
BSE	bovine spongiform encephalopathy
CHD	coronary heart disease
CI	confidence interval
CJD	Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease
CoA and acyl-CoA	co-enzyme A and its acyl derivatives
CV	coefficient of variation
CVD	cardiovascular disease
Df	degrees of freedom
DHA	docosahexaenoic acid
DM	dry matter
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
dpm	disintegrations per minute
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetra-acetic acid
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EPA	eicosapentaenoic acid
Expt	experiment (for specified experiment, e.g. Expt 1)
FAD	flavin-adenine dinucleotide
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (except when used as an author)
FFQ	food-frequency questionnaire
FMN	flavin mononucleotide
GC	gas chromatography
GLC	gas-liquid chromatography
GLUT	glucose transporter
GM	genetically modified
Hb	haemoglobin
HDL	high-density lipoprotein
HEPES	4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazine-ethanesulfonic acid
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HPLC	high-performance liquid chromatography
Ig	immunoglobulin
IHD	ischaemic heart disease
IL	interleukin
IR	infra red
Kb	kilobases
K_m	Michaelis constant
LDL	low-density lipoprotein
MHC	major histocompatibility complex
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MS	mass spectrometry
MUFA	monounsaturated fatty acids
NAD ⁺ , NADH	oxidized and reduced nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide
NADP ⁺ , NADPH	oxidized and reduced nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide phosphate
NEFA	non-esterified fatty acids
NF- κ B	nuclear factor kappa B
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
NS	not significant
NSP	non-starch polysaccharide
OR	odds ratio

PAGE	polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
PBS	phosphate-buffered saline
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PG	prostaglandin
PPAR	peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor
PUFA	polyunsaturated fatty acids
RDA	recommended dietary allowance
RER	respiratory exchange ratio
RIA	radioimmunoassay
RMR	resting metabolic rate
RNA, mRNA etc.	ribonucleic acid, messenger RNA etc.
rpm	revolutions per minute
RT	reverse transcriptase
SCFA	short-chain fatty acids
SDS	sodium dodecyl sulphate
SED	standard error of the difference between means
SFA	saturated fatty acids
SNP	single nucleotide polymorphism
TAG	triacylglycerol
TCA	trichloroacetic acid
TLC	thin-layer chromatography
TNF	tumour necrosis factor
UN	United Nations (except when used as an author)
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UV	ultra violet
VLDL	very-low-density lipoprotein
V _{O2}	O ₂ consumption
V _{O2max}	maximum O ₂ consumption
WHO	World Health Organization (except when used as an author)

Use of three-letter versions of amino acids in tables: Leu, His, etc.
 CTP, UTP, GTP, ITP, as we already use ATP, AMP etc.

Disallowed words and phrases

The following are disallowed by PHN:

- deuterium or tritium (use ²H and ³H)
- c.a. or around (use approximately or about)
- canola (use rapeseed)
- ether (use diethyl ether)
- free fatty acids (use NEFA)
- isocaloric/calorie (use isoenergetic/energy)
- quantitate (use quantify)
- unpublished data or observations (use unpublished results)