

CRN's Working Groups, Task Forces & Subcommittees

CRN's Working Groups, Task Forces & Subcommittees

CRN forms working groups, task forces and subcommittees to respond to emerging issues or to proactively address an area of importance to CRN members and the dietary supplement industry. As they typically tackle a specific issue, they remain separate from CRN's long-standing committees, and may depend on separate participation and funding levels. If you are interested in joining a particular working group, task force or subcommittee, please contact CRN's Director of Membership Development Carl Hyland or the designated CRN staff liaison.

CBD Working Group

Staff Liaisons: Andrea Wong, PhD & Megan Olsen

The CBD Working Group follows the evolving hemp-derived CBD marketplace and keeps members informed of the rapidly changing scientific, legal, and regulatory landscapes for hemp-derived ingredients. The working group provides guidance to CRN staff on engagement with FDA and other stakeholders as CRN works to clarify how companies can market compliant hemp-derived CBD foods and dietary ingredients. All CRN members are welcome to participate in the CBD Working Group.

Consumer Survey Advisory Committee

Chair: Tom Druke, Balchem

Staff Liaison: Holly Vogtman

The Consumer Survey Advisory Committee, a subgroup of the Communications and Media Outreach Committee (CMOC), is comprised of market research, marketing, and communications executives at member companies interested in research about U.S. consumers' usage of dietary

supplements. The Advisory Committee, which is responsible for assembling the annual CRN survey questionnaire, ensures that the survey will uncover the most important information relevant to supplement consumers, including which supplements they take and how often, why they take supplements, where they purchase them, and more. The Advisory Committee meets via email and for a series of conference calls in June and July before the survey is fielded in August by a third-party market research firm.

Delivery Form Safety Task Force

Staff Liaison: Andrea Wong, PhD

The Delivery Form Safety Task Force is exploring the development of industry best practices and/or consumer education materials to address the issue of consumer difficulties with swallowing dietary supplements, as reported in a recently published research letter. The Task Force meets regularly by teleconference. All CRN members are welcome to participate in the Task Force.

Dietary Guidelines Subcommittee

Staff Liaisons: Haiuyen Nguyen

The DGA Subcommittee develops a strategy for CRN to participate in the process and development of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, the national nutrition policy published every 5 years by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Subcommittee also guides the development of CRN comments submitted throughout the Dietary Guidelines process. Interested members should contact their Senior Scientific Advisory Council representative.

CRN's Working Groups, Task Forces & Subcommittees

Day of Science (DOS) Planning Subcommittee

Staff Liaison: Haiyuen Nguyen

The DOS Planning Subcommittee develops the program for *The Workshop: CRN's Day of Science*, a one-day scientific symposium that is held annually in conjunction with CRN's Annual Conference. Interested members should contact their Senior Scientific Advisory Council representative.

Government Relations State Subcommittee

Chair: Ingrid Lebert, Pharmavite

Staff Liaison: Amanda Darlington

The Government Relations State Subcommittee (GRSS) is a subcommittee of the GRC. The subcommittee is focused on gathering and sharing information on key state issues with potential impact on the supplement industry, as well as any corresponding bills which may require industry participation/intervention. Because most of the subcommittee's work is centered on preparedness for state activities, there is also a strong focus on developing methods for sharing legislative news with the CRN membership. The subcommittee meets bi-weekly during state legislative sessions and quarterly when states are out of session, by conference call and is vital for any CRN member company executive charged with tracking state legislation.

NDI Working Group

Staff Liaison: Haiyuen Nguyen

The *ad hoc* NDI Working Group is a part of the larger Regulatory Affairs Committee that specifically focuses on developing CRN's strategy and position with regard to FDA's Draft Guidance on New Dietary Ingredient Notification issued in July 2011. The Working Group meets by teleconference to discuss CRN comments and

recommendations to FDA on issues related to the Draft Guidance as the agency works toward a final guidance. All CRN members are welcome to participate in the Working Group. Interested members should contact their Regulatory Affairs Committee representative.

Probiotics Working Group

Chair: Jeremy Bartos, MeriCal

Staff Liaisons: Andrea Wong & Jim Griffiths

The Probiotics Working Group is currently developing a [retailer education campaign](#) and monitoring/[responding to media coverage](#) of the probiotic category, as well as keeping members engaged and updated on issues such as FDA's position on labeling probiotic quantity, the Codex proposal on probiotics, and the Lactobacillus taxonomy change.

Prop 65 Working Group

Staff Liaison: Megan Olsen

The Prop 65 Working Group meets on an *ad hoc* basis by teleconference to discuss issues related to Proposition 65 (Prop 65). The group assists with comments and recommendations to the California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) on proposals related to Prop 65, including proposed regulations and chemical listings. Membership is open to all CRN members with an interest in Prop 65.

CRN's Working Groups, Task Forces & Subcommittees

Retailer Relations Forum (by appointment only)

Chair: Tom Mondragon, OLLY PBC

Staff Liaison: Steve Mister

CRN's Retailer Relations Forum is open (by invitation only) to the senior sales and customer officers from CRN member companies that market finished dietary supplements and functional food to mass retailers in the chain drug, grocery, box store, and club venues. Forum members may include both marketers of branded products and contract manufacturers who manufacture store brand products for these customers.

The Retailer Relations Forum provides opportunities for their senior sales executives of member companies to stay up-to-date on regulatory and sector developments that will impact their business. Forum members keep abreast of retailer priorities, upcoming retailer initiatives, and requirements and expectations retailers have for the supplement and functional food categories. It also encourages these executives to become CRN brand ambassadors to the retail trade by helping to promote CRN's initiatives to retailers in the context of their own brand image and alignment with our activities.

The Forum hosts at least one "engagement" experience a year providing a selected retailer the opportunity to host the Forum at its facilities, discuss its initiatives and expectations for the dietary supplement category—perhaps offer a tour of a model store or offer insights into its planograms for the future of the supplement "aisle"—and to network with our member executives.

Retailer Standards Working Group

Staff Liaisons: Megan Olsen & Luke Huber

The Retailer Standards Working Group provides a forum for manufacturers and suppliers to discuss regulatory, technical, and compliance issues surrounding retailer standards programs. Retailer standards programs may require manufacturers to engage in product testing or manufacturing facility audits to demonstrate safety and quality of products. Members assist CRN staff by providing insights into these programs and advising on steps CRN can take to encourage retailer harmonization of these programs. This working group meets on an *ad hoc* basis by teleconference and is open to voting members only, with one representative per voting member.

Sports Nutrition Working Group

Staff Liaisons: Luke Huber & Amanda Darlington

Chair: Jim Komorowski, MS, CNS, JDS, Therapeutics LLC

Vice Chair: Adam Branfman, Nestle Health Sciences

The Sports Nutrition Working Group typically meets on a quarterly basis by teleconference to discuss topics related to legislative, scientific, regulatory and stakeholder issues surrounding the role of dietary supplements in sports nutrition. The Sports Nutrition Working Group is open to all member companies with interest in sports nutrition.

CRN's Working Groups, Task Forces & Subcommittees

Toxicology Subcommittee

Staff Liaisons: Andrea Wong, Ph.D. & Jim Griffiths, Ph.D.

The Toxicology Subcommittee is part of the larger Senior Scientific Advisory Council that addresses scientific and regulatory issues related to the safety of dietary ingredients, dietary supplements, and functional foods. The initial focus of the group was to respond to FDA's request for input on updating the Guidance for Industry "Toxicological Principles for the Safety Assessment of Food Ingredients," also known as the "Redbook." The group also explores topics such as assessing the safety of multi-ingredient formulations, drug-herb interactions, and other emerging toxicological issues. Interested members should contact their Senior Scientific Advisory Council representative.

USP/AOAC Subcommittee

Staff Liaison: Jim Griffiths, Ph.D.

The USP/AOAC Subcommittee is a part of the larger Regulatory Affairs Committee that specifically focuses on US Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) General Chapters and ingredient/product monographs that appear in the USP, National Formulary (NF) and Food Chemicals Codex (FCC). The Subcommittee also monitors analytical methods development for dietary ingredients by AOAC International. Understanding the issues, from both the industry perspective, as well as how USP and AOAC processes work, allows CRN to more effectively communicate and seek industry resolutions to analytical methods and acceptance criteria for dietary ingredients as well as non-dietary (food) ingredients. Interested members should contact their Regulatory Affairs Committee representative.

Vitamin D Task Force

Co-Chairs: Annahita Ghassemi, Church & Dwight & Alan McNamara, Pharmavite

Staff Liaisons: Luke Huber & Kendall Ridley

The Vitamin D Task Force leads the development of an educational website on Vitamin D & COVID-19 sponsored by member donations to the CRN Foundation. The group meets on an *ad hoc* basis by teleconference and is made up of members who are sponsoring this education initiative. The group provides guidance on educational content, marketing and communications efforts related to the initiative. The Vitamin D Task Force is open to member companies which are sponsoring the initiative.

For more information contact:

Carl Hyland

*CRN Vice President, Membership Development
202-204-7674*

chyland@crnusa.org