

While many may think of summertime as a more relaxed season when it comes to work, that was not the case for us during July, August, and September of this year.

The CRN team was busy working on key issues to protect and advance our dietary supplement and functional food industry members' interests, whether responding to FDA's proposed reorganization plans, a Congressional inquiry on cannabidiol, or a California legislator's questions on titanium dioxide—just to name a few issues that were in play this summer.

In addition, CRN's Executive Committee developed an ambitious strategic plan for 2024-2026 during a planning session in July that was subsequently adopted by the Board of Directors in September.



CRN President & CEO Steve Mister discussed legislative and regulatory issues during the "Washington Watercooler" segment of Natural Products Expo East's "Supplement Symposium" in September.

See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports to view quarterly reports with links.

REINFORCING RETAILER RELATIONS

CRN holds breakfast meeting connecting top retailer executives with supplement stakeholders at NACDS event

CRN's Retailer Relations Forum breakfast engagement at the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Total Store Expo convened dietary supplement industry and retail leaders for discussions about supplement aisle trends, retailer requirements for companies regarding quality, claims and product testing, and more.



Colleen Lindholz, Kroger Health; Lisa Paley, Haleon; and Scott Emerson, Emerson Group.

CRN establishes 2024-2026 strategic plan

The CRN Board of Directors adopted a new CRN strategic plan for 2024 through 2026, following the Executive Committee's retreat with CRN staff to establish goals within each of five areas:

- Expanding Self-Regulatory Initiatives
- Influencing Public Policy
- Improving Consumer Access
- Cultivating Positive Public Perceptions
- Expanding Membership

More

See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports to view full quarterly report with links.

PUSHING BACK ON INAPPROPRIATE POLICY INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS:

CRN sounds alarm over FDA’s downgrading of dietary supplements in proposed agency restructuring

CRN highlighted concerns about proposed structural changes at FDA that would eliminate the FDA Office of Dietary Supplement Programs (ODSP) under the current Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), after a careful assessment of a stakeholder relations call held by agency officials on June 28. In addition, CRN wrote FDA Commissioner Robert M. Califf, M.D., expressing grave concerns about the proposed reorganization of the agency’s Human Foods Program, which downgrades FDA’s regulation of dietary supplements under the proposed new framework. CRN would have the opportunity to publicly question Commissioner Califf even further about the reorganization during a live virtual fireside chat at its annual conference in October.

- **CRN details concerns with FTC guidance via citizen petition**
- **CBD activity: CRN responds to Congressional request for information on CBD, and more**
- **CRN tracks California legislation that would prohibit titanium dioxide in food, supplements**

See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports to view quarterly reports with links.



CRN President & CEO Steve Mister updated members on FDA’s proposed reorganization and how it could affect the dietary supplement industry.

FDA has spent the past five years ignoring not only Congress’ directive to regulate CBD, but also the credible, well-conducted research that demonstrates the safety of well-made CBD products.



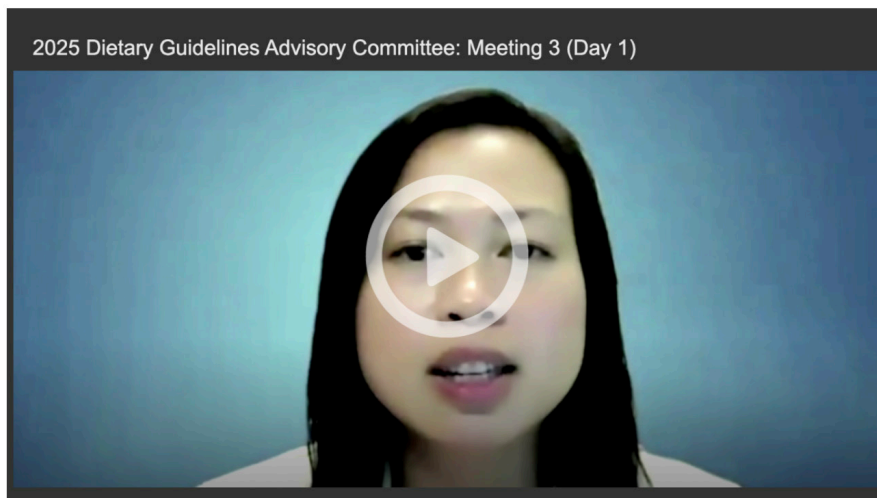
CRN VP of Government Relations Julia Gustafson was among the dietary supplement industry panelists speaking at a U.S. Hemp Roundtable briefing to congressional staff in September.

More

ADVOCATING FOR INCREASED CONSUMER ACCESS TO SUPPLEMENTS

CRN calls for consideration of supplementation recommendations in Dietary Guidelines for Americans

CRN urged the 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee to “consider special nutrient concerns at each life stage and recommend reasonable options for meeting nutrient needs and optimizing health, including dietary supplements and functional foods.” VP of Regulatory and Nutrition Policy, Haiyuen Nguyen, provided comments during a public meeting in September.



CRN joins U.S. House Representatives in support of FSA/HSA supplement legislation

CRN applauded the introduction of the bipartisan Dietary Supplements Access Act introduced by Reps. Darin LaHood (R-IL), Brendan Boyle (D-PA), John Curtis (R-UT), and Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ) to provide greater choices to consumers by allowing them to use Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) and Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) to purchase dietary supplements, giving millions of Americans increased health and wellness options for better self-care. In Q2 CRN released results of a survey confirming most Americans who currently have an FSA or HSA want the flexibility to choose how best to use their pre-tax dollars to stay healthy by using these accounts to purchase dietary supplements.

EDUCATING SUPPLEMENT INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS

CRN taps member probiotics experts for live Q&A

CRN hosted the first in a “Live Q&A” series, with the inaugural session focusing on probiotics. Participants heard from Jeremy Bartos, Ph.D., Chief Science Officer, MeriCal, Andrzej Benkowski, Technical Manager, Eurofins, and Shihka Snigdha, Ph.D., Director of Scientific Affairs, OLLY, who discussed topics including: manufacturing a dry dosage probiotic supplement; testing for enumeration, identification, and product safety; and separating fact from hype when it comes to clinical studies in probiotics. The session recording and slides are now available on demand.

Wong talks precision health at Linus Pauling Institute conference

CRN SVP Scientific & Regulatory Affairs Andrea Wong, Ph.D., in September spoke as part of a keynote panel on precision health with Holly Nicastro, Ph.D., MPH, and Cindy Davis at the Oregon State University Linus Pauling Institute’s Diet and Optimum Health Conference, organized by Emily Ho, Ph.D. and sponsored by several CRN member companies.

More

➔ **See the full report on our website for details on these and other items:**

- **CRN responds to JAMA Cardiology report**
- **CRN fields annual consumer survey on dietary supplements**



CRN convened its consumer survey subcommittee of its Communications, Marketing, and Media Outreach Committee to review and shape the annual questionnaire and worked with Ipsos to field the 2023 CRN Consumer Survey on Dietary Supplements online with more than 3,000 respondents during the third quarter. CRN offered members a pre-launch opportunity to purchase the full survey data at the best price. (In Q4 following 2023 topline data's big reveal at CRN's annual conference, the survey became available for purchase to all, with special pricing remaining in place for CRN members.)
Learn more: www.crnusa.org/2023survey

GROWING CRN MEMBERSHIP

CRN welcomes new members

In the third quarter, the CRN Board approved the following companies for Voting Membership: Abode Biotech; Acutia, Inc.; and K. Patel Phyto Extractions Pvt. Ltd. The Board also approved alliantgroup; Imagine Health; and Luminize as Associate members.

Q3 Press Releases

JULY 7
TaCl Named Chair of CRN's Retail Relations Forum

JULY 7
CRN: FDA's Proposed Downgrading of Dietary Supplements Sends Unhealthy Message to Industry and Consumers

JULY 20
Supplement Industry Trade Associations Join Reps. LaHood, Boyle, Curtis, & Gottheimer to Give Americans Increased Flexibility to Purchase Nutritional Supplements for Better Health

JULY 24
CRN 50th anniversary signature events, Oct. 3-6, to present industry-defining insights for purpose-driven growth

JULY 27
CRN Asks Congress to Demand FDA 'Complete the Work' to Allow CBD to be Marketed as a Dietary Supplement

AUG 18
CRN to Congress: FDA Is Failing Consumers on CBD

AUG 23
CRN Welcomes James 'Jim' Jones to New Role as FDA's First Deputy Commissioner for Human Foods

AUG 23
Response to JAMA Cardiology, Brief Report, 'Health Claims and Doses of Fish Oil Supplements in the US'

AUG 25
FDA Commissioner Califf to Address Dietary Supplement Industry During CRN's 50th Anniversary 'Now New Next'

SEPT 5
CRN Salutes the Commitment of Governor Bill Richardson to the Dietary Supplement Consumer

SEPT 25
FTC: Randomized Clinical Trials Not Required for Most Supplements