



27 July 2016

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To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia I wish to make a submission on **Proposal 1026 – Lupin as an allergen**

Background

Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia (A&AA) is a charitable, non-profit organisation established in 1993 to support and assist those affected by allergy and anaphylaxis. A&AA is dedicated to assisting individuals, their caregivers and all in the community in the management of allergic conditions including food allergy. A&AA's aim is to enable individuals and their families to enjoy an optimum quality of life whilst minimising risk to their health and wellbeing.

A&AA strives to raise awareness of allergy in the community and provides evidence-based information, resources and services to support children and adults living with allergic disease. A&AA has members across all states and territories of Australia. We have a Medical Advisory Board that consists of several allergy specialists who are also members of Australia's peak medical body, ASCIA (Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy).

Submission

Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia (A&AA) supports the amendment to include lupin as an allergen requiring declaration.

A&AA notes that the amendment will also apply to imported foods sold in Australia and New Zealand. A&AA considers that the declaration of lupin on imported products is of equal or greater significance than local produce. With the recall of imported coconut drinks containing dairy in mind, and the recent coroner's report on the death of Ronak Warty, A&AA expects that this new requirement will be brought to the immediate attention of importers and their relevant associations.

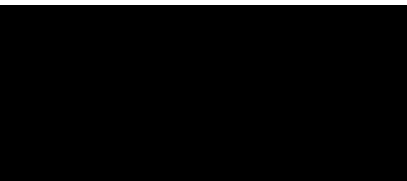
A&AA remains concerned by FSANZ's priorities in addressing the shortcomings of standard 1.2.3—4, all which have been discussed over many years, and which in many cases remain unresolved.

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When beginning extensive projects investigating potential allergens such as lupin, A&AA strongly encourages FSANZ to communicate directly with the peak medical body, the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy at the outset. By doing so, the magnitude of the problem, compared with other food allergen labelling issues that need attention, can be discussed and prioritised. Whilst there was some discussion five or more years ago on the possible increase in individuals with lupin allergy because of potential molecular cross reactivity in those with peanut allergy, anecdotally this does not seem to have become apparent. That said, now that FSANZ has spent years and resources investigating the lupin issue, it would seem ludicrous to not include lupin, which is easily hidden in baked goods, as a major allergen even though some may argue that kiwi fruit allergy may well be more of a problem than lupin allergy in Australia.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Yours sincerely,



Maria Said
President
Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia



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