



Instructions on How to Comment on FDA Public Meeting: Closer to Zero Action Plan: Impacts of Toxic Element Exposure and Nutrition at Different Crucial Developmental Stages

Comments Period Ends on December 20, 2021
Docket Number: FDA-2021-N-0966

In the Federal Register of October 12, 2021, the FDA announced a public meeting and request for comments to engage with stakeholders and invite input on the Closer to Zero (C2Z) Action Plan. The purpose of the virtual public meeting entitled “Closer to Zero Action Plan: Impacts of Toxic Element Exposure and Nutrition at Different Crucial Developmental Stages” is to discuss the scope of the Closer to Zero action plan as it relates to the impacts of toxic element exposure and nutrition at different crucial developmental stages, including discussion of exposure risks of toxic elements, foods commonly consumed by babies and young children, and the interaction of nutrients and nutrient status as co-exposures to lead, arsenic, cadmium, and mercury on growth and development.

Speakers at the meeting will outline the C2Z plan including FDA's four-stage approach for continual improvement and additional work related to levels of toxic elements in food. Panel presentations, which will include a number of experts external to FDA, will provide perspectives on the various issues needed to fulfill the C2Z plan. There will be an opportunity for questions as well as an opportunity for open public comment. We expect this meeting to be the first of several regarding the C2Z action plan.

We will consider all comments made during the meeting or received through the docket to help enhance our knowledge and understanding of the impacts of toxic element exposure and nutrition at crucial developmental stages and help us identify what additional next steps are needed to support the implementation of the action plan.

The public comments are due **December 20, 2021**.

There are two ways to comment:

Comment electronically at:

- Closer to Zero Action Plan: Impacts of Toxic Element Exposure and Nutrition at Different Crucial Developmental Stages; Public Meeting; Request for Comments- Docket No. FDA-2021-N-0966 (<https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/FDA-2021-N-0966-0001>)

Written comments may be mailed to:

Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305),
Food and Drug Administration,
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

*NOTE: The comment due date indicated on Regulations.gov is based on Eastern Standard Time. In this instance the comment due date is listed as **December 20, 2021** so comments are due on that date by 11:59 PM ET. Also, please note that comments are not retrievable once submitted. To make changes, submit another comment referring to your previous comment correcting any errors and/or re-stating your position or opinion.*