Reading Food Labels

Low fat:

A claim that a food is low in fat may only be made where the product contains no more than 3 g of fat per 100 g for solids or 1,5 g of fat per 100 ml for liquids (1,8 g of fat per 100 ml for semi-skimmed milk).

Low sugar:

A claim that a food is low in sugars may only be made where the product contains no more than 5 g of sugar per 100 g for solids or 2,5 g of sugar per 100 ml for liquids.

Fat Free:

A claim that a food is fat-free may only be made where the product contains no more than 0,5 g of fat per 100 g or 100 ml.

Sugar Free:

A claim that a food is sugar-free may only be made where the product contains no more than 0,5 g of sugars per 100 g or 100 ml.

No Added Sugar:

A claim stating that sugars have not been added to a food may only be made where the product does not contain any added mono- or disaccharides or any other food used for its sweetening properties. If sugars are naturally present in the food, the following indication should also appear on the label: 'Contains naturally occurring sugars'.

Reduced fat / sugar / saturated fat:

A claim stating that the content in one or more nutrients has been reduced may only be made where the reduction in content is at least 30% compared to a similar product.

Source of Fibre

A claim that a food is a source of fibre may only be made where the product contains at least 3 g of fibre per 100 g or at least 1,5 g of fibre per 100 kcal.

High Fibre

A claim that a food is high in fibre may only be made where the product contains at least 6 g of fibre per 100 g or at least 3 g of fibre per 100 kcal.

Source of Protein

A claim that a food is a source of protein may only be made where at least 12% of the energy value of the food is provided by protein.

High Protein

A claim that a food is high in protein may only be made where at least 20% of the energy value of the food is provided by protein.

Light or Lite

A claim stating that a product is 'light' or 'lite' shall follow the same conditions as those set for the term 'reduced'; the claim shall also be accompanied by an indication of the characteristic(s) which make(s) the food 'light' or 'lite'.

