

From:
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Subject:

23 May 2019 11:03
Finance Foodsuppl
Vat consultation

I am writing as a health shop owner with my concerns about the proposed VAT on supplements. It upsets me greatly that this industry is thought of as selling products to consumers that they don't need. I have many customers old and young that supplement for various reasons and find that this improves their lives and can prevent or postpone them taking medication. I am not in the habit of selling for the sake of it and often send customers away with nothing rather than sell what they don't need or can get from food.

BUT there is a time and a place for a lot of these products whether it be because of poor diet, stressful lifestyles, chronic illness or even medications they are taking. During the campaign to stop the VAT I had so many customers upset and worried about how they would afford their products and similarly if we still would be in business because as you know we sell more than just supplements. If this VAT increase comes in these customers will be driven to buy their products online without any idea of the quality of what they are buying or indeed the discussion with the highly knowledgeable health stores staff on what may suit them taking in to account medications they are on etc.

I strongly believe that putting VAT on these products is wrong as they are not and never will be a luxury item. More VAT on products for heart health than on a Big Mac?? Doesn't make any sense.
Please reconsider this decision