
From:
Sent: 23 May 2019 11:44
To: Finance Foodsuppl
Subject: Fw: VAT on food supplements

To whom it may concern,

As a Nutritional Therapist and sales assistant in a health food shop, I know how nutrients affect people's health and have seen first hand the difference they can make in peoples lives.

From pain management to reduction in symptoms of chronic disease, nutrients, herbs and spices are powerful tools and should be available to all at reasonable cost.

People are using these products in order to keep themselves well and out of the health-care system. How does imposing a substantial tax on these products make sense? The less people have access to these products, the more people end up in hospitals.

This seems non-sensical to me, taxing people for maintaining their own health.

I strongly disagree with options 1-3 given to us in the options for future VAT treatment of supplements. These products were given a zero VAT rating for a reason. They support the health and wellbeing of a person. This should not be taxed, health should not be a luxury, it should be a choice.

If you want to eat McDonalds all day which has been proven to be detrimental to health, go for it; at a VAT rating of 13.5% - and end up in hospital - costing the taxpayer no end.

If you want to eat well and support your body using nutrients, it will cost you 23% VAT AND you will not be a drain on the health-care system. How does this make sense?!

These policies are again looking for the quick fix and this will be costly in the long run.

In response to question 4, I agree that certain categories of food supplements (namely sports and weight-loss) should be excluded from reduced rate of VAT.

Food supplements that are used for supporting a persons health should not be taxed. They are already expensive products and if VAT is introduced they will be out of reach of the most vulnerable, the elderly, the sick and the poor, who need these products the most.

If you have any further questions, or need specific research papers on how nutrients (what your body is made of and utilise to keep you well) are important for health please let me know. I would be happy to help.

Regards,

Sent from Outlook