

CPD News

Important CPD developments

We hope that all of you have received your 2003 point status and invoice for payment of the 2004 CPD administration fee (we hope you have noticed the rebate provided as a once-off by the CPD committee). Please note that the due date for this fee is **1 August 2004**. Contact Edelweiss Wentzel-Viljoen (edelweis@iafrica.com or tel. 053 – 433 0770 between 09:00 and 13:00) before **15 July** regarding any queries on your point status or **as soon as possible if you have not received your point status**. We note again that the *status quo* remains regarding CPD for dietitians and that points will be transferred to the HPCSA via the Professional Board for Dietetics by the middle of September. You do not have to complete a CPD1 form as requested in the letter from the HPCSA dated 26 January 2004.

New CPD Accreditation Committee

Mrs G Gericke (Chairperson), Professor XG Mbhenyane (Professional Board), Dr N P Steyn (Professional Board), Dr E Wentzel-Viljoen (CPD for dietitians), Mrs D Marais (ADSA) and Mr I Malao (HPCSA).

From the HPCSA – tax-deductible CPD info

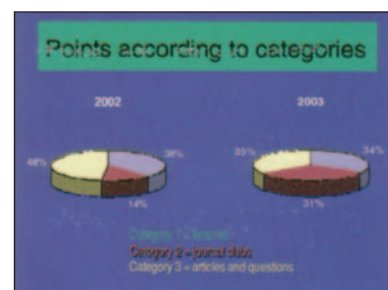
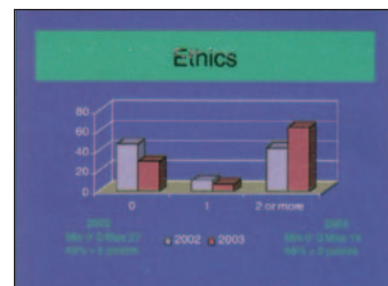
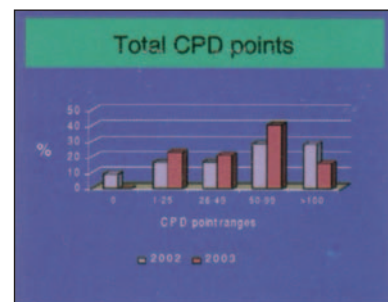
As a result of several similar enquiries received from health professionals in the past few months regarding the amendment to the Income Tax Act which no longer allows fees payable to Council as deductions for tax purposes, Council recently resolved that we enter into discussions with the Minister of Finance on this matter with a view of requesting the Minister to review these amendments. The Senior Manager Finance and the Registrar have had

preliminary discussions on how to approach the Ministry on this matter. Health professionals will be promptly informed of the outcome of these discussions once finalised with the Ministry of Finance. It should also be borne in mind that should the Ministry agree to revisit the Act, a very long process that involves drafting, consultation of stakeholders as well as public comments would then have to be followed before enacting the legislation.

International Congress of Dietetics (ICD), Chicago

Edelweiss Wentzel-Viljoen and Debbi Marais represented the CPD Committee at the ICD in Chicago at the end of May, presenting a workshop session on CPD in South Africa. The presentation covered the history of our CPD system and how it functions as well as pointing out the challenges we face. Much interest was shown in the topic and it led to a great discussion at the end of the session with dietitians from the UK, USA, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Jamaica etc. giving their ideas and discussing mutual problems. The main take-home message for us was that firstly we are WAY ahead of the other countries and they were able to learn a lot from us and secondly that those who are attempting to get such a system going experience the same problems that we do! In the UK compulsory CPD will begin this year. It was very clear in their response to Edelweiss' plea for cross-accreditation, that they are so far behind that we have to give them a chance before they can even contemplate this. The following statistics were included in the presentation to give an indication of how successful our system has been – please note that the numbers used were not the final ones for 2003, but they do give a good indication of the situation.

Total CPD points		
n = 1323	2002	2003
Average	63	63
Range	0-203	1-216
> 50 points	58%	57%

**Ceres plus**

Ceres plus is the first food to be carrying the CANSA Promoting Healthy Choices food emblem.



'CANSA has introduced its "Promoting Healthy Choices" food emblem to give all South Africans the assurance that products bearing this mark meet CANSA's strict criteria of healthy ingredients and sound nutrition that can increase longevity.' – Dr Precious Moloi, President of the Cancer Association of South Africa.

Kellogg's All-Bran

The multibiotic properties of wheat bran found in Kellogg's All-Bran range of cereal

- Fermented by bacteria to the short-chain fatty acids (SCFA), acetic acid, propionic acid and butyric acid, which reduce the pH in the colon.
- A low colonic pH inhibits the growth of pathogenic bacterial species such as *E.coli* while stimulating the growth of bifidobacteria and lactic acid microflora.
- During fermentation the bacterial mass increases and consequently also the faecal bulk, resulting in a shorter transit time and preventing constipation.
- In addition to the bulking effect, dietary fibre can bind and remove potentially harmful compounds in the colon.

In memoriam



Professor Vernon R Young, 66, a nutritional biochemist whose work largely defined protein requirements, died on 30 March 2004 in Cambridge, Massachusetts,

USA. Born in Wales, Professor Young earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in agriculture at the universities of Reading and Cambridge in England, and a doctorate in nutrition at the University of California at Davis.

He joined the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1965, lectured at Harvard Medical School and directed research at Shriners Burns Hospital in Boston. Professor Young focused his research on the metabolism of amino acids, in the process developing quantitative rather than qualitative methods to determine protein requirements for growth and maintenance. He pioneered food labelling of packaged foods, and contributed very significantly to the formulation of amino acid requirements as adopted by the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation. Professor Young's many publications in the peer-reviewed literature underscore his unique insights into protein and amino acid requirements and metabolism. Undoubtedly, the methodology he developed for this purpose has been crucial in the advancements achieved in this field. Professor Young is also well known in many developing countries for his efforts to provide training, build capacity and impart knowledge in his area of expertise, which will, undoubtedly, be missed.

Professor Young is survived by his wife Janice, his four sons Michael, Christopher, Richard and Andrew, and his daughter, Patricia.

Professor D Labadarios

New Chief Director of HIV/AIDS and Nutrition, Department of Education

Mrs Cynthia Mgijima, previously Director of Nutrition of the national Department of Health, has been appointed Chief Director of

HIV/AIDS and Nutrition in the Department of Education, effective 1 May 2004. In her term of office as Director of Nutrition, Mrs



Mgijima has initiated, formulated, contributed, and managed a number of crucially important policies in the field of nutrition, including the baby-friendly hospital initiative, infant and child nutrition, HIV/AIDS nutritional supplementation, disease-specific nutritional guidelines, management of undernutrition, food service management and administration as well as food fortification. Mrs Mgijima has made herself well known among nutritional professionals for her listening, negotiating and managerial skills on a number of difficult and involved national issues in nutrition. The *SAJCN* wishes Mrs Mgijima well for the challenges ahead in her new position.

INVITATION

The *SAJCN* editorial team invites you to submit good quality pictures (digital in jpeg or tiff format or the original photograph) which can be used for the cover of the journal! All pictures used will be acknowledged. This initiative is part of our commitment to involve readers in the visual appearance and format of the journal. We plan to include pictures representative of the SA nutrition scene. We look forward to your contributions!!

(For information and contributions, please contact
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**New SAJCN website:
www.sajcn.com**