



September 2006

Initial Assessment Report

Application A565

NISIN-EXTENSION OF USE AS A FOOD ADDITIVE

The Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) supports the progression of A565 to Draft Assessment. The reasons for the support are as follows:

- Nisin is only used as a food preservative and has currently no therapeutic use.
- Available scientific studies indicate that within the established Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) levels, Nisin is safe for use as a food additive and the development of antibiotic resistance in relation to its use is not of concern.
- Nisin resistant mutants do not show any cross resistance to therapeutic antibiotics.
- Nisin is already approved in Australia for use as a food additive in other foods.
- That FSANZ will undertake a safety assessment and dietary modelling as specified in its Initial Assessment Report. DAA considers the assessment and dietary modelling as very important in establishing that the Australian population particularly young children will not exceed the current acceptable daily intake level of Nisin (0.13mg per kg body weight¹).

Reference

1. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). *Opinion of the Scientific Panel on Food Additives, Flavourings, processing Aids and Materials in Contact with Food on a request from the Commission related to: The use of Nisin (E 234) as a food additive*. The EFSA Journal (2006) 314, 1-16