



June 2011

**Submission from the Dietitians Association of Australia
to Food Standards Australia New Zealand**

A1026 – Minimum Alcohol Content for Wine

The Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) is the national association of the dietetic profession with over 4000 members, and branches in each state and territory. DAA is a leader in nutrition and advocates for better food, better health, and better living for all.

Contact person: Bree Murray
Position: Project Officer Dietitian
Organisation: Dietitians Association of Australia
Address: 1/8 Phipps Close, Deakin ACT 2600
Telephone: 02 6163 5200
Facsimile: 02 6282 9888
Email: bmurray@daa.asn.au

The DAA understands this application is to amend Standard 4.5.1 –Wine Production Requirements (Australia only standard) of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) to reduce the minimum alcohol content permitted for wine and sparkling wine from 8% to 4.5% alcohol/volume.

The DAA supports the preferred approach (option 2) to prepare a draft variation to Standard 4.5.1 to require wine and sparkling wine produced in Australia to contain no less than 45mL/L of ethanol at 20°C.

The DAA

- Acknowledges there is currently an issue of regulatory disadvantage for Australian produced wine in comparison to wine imported into Australia, and with the proposed amendment this would be in line with the EU.
- Supports the amendment on the basis that no public health and safety risk occurs as a result, and that the Australian consumer may have a wider range of domestically produced lower alcohol wine available, which would have a health advantage.