Gaps in food composition data: Issues related to data compilation and use

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Who are our users?

- Dietitians
- Epidemiologists
- Public health nutritionists
- Food industry
- Many others

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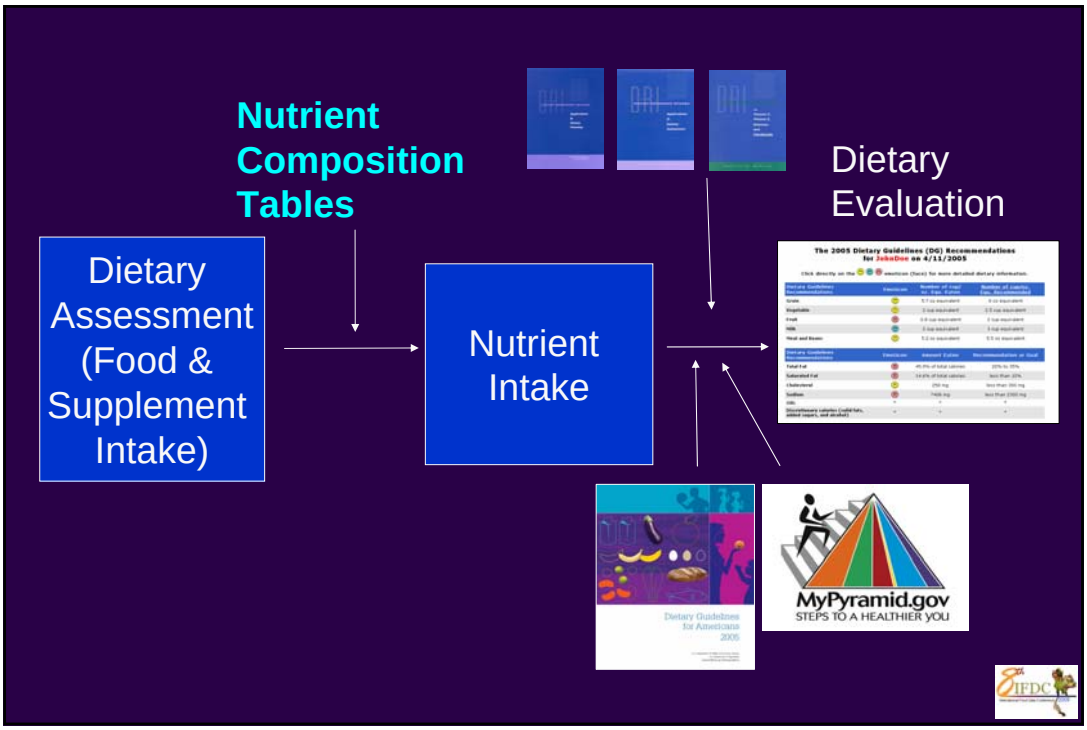
Bangkok, Thailand



What do our users expect?

- Accurate composition values
- Complete data

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- Accurate composition values – Dr. Greenfield
- Complete data – Dr. Murphy

Broad areas that need more attention – Compilation of complete data

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But there are many gaps in our ability to do this accurately!

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Solutions might include:

Better standardization of data formats (eg, use of tag names)

Better documentation of ALL assumptions, etc.

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And more training on how to make appropriate decisions

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Ongoing discussion about whether it even should be done.

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Better guidelines on best practices when imputing values

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Data are lacking as well as guidelines on compiling the data that do exist.

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Solutions might include:

Development of guidelines on compilation

Data sharing across countries (because many formulations are common globally)

Other broad areas that need more attention

- Recipes: calculated vs. analyzed
- Retention factors
- Applications related to nutrition labeling
- Assigning foods to food groups