

Project Officer Application A1233
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
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28 January 2022

Tēnā koe,

Application A1233 2'-FL from new GM source for infant formula

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application.

New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) agrees with FSANZ's safety and risk assessment that there are no concerns associated with the voluntary addition of the applicant's new source of 2'-fucosyllactose (2'-FL), which is derived from *E. coli* K-12 containing the gene for alpha-1,2-fucosyltransferase from *Bacteroides vulgatus* to infant formula products. We note that the 2'-FL from the new source is structurally and chemically identical to the naturally occurring substance in human breast milk.

We note that the Code already permits 2'-FL from a different source organism for addition to infant formula products, and that under A1233 FSANZ has assessed the safety of 2'-FL produced by the new production strain. We also note FSANZ's commitment to reassess the beneficial role of 2'-FL in the normal growth and development of infants by March 2026.

NZFS therefore supports permitting this new source of 2'-FL subject the existing permissions and conditions for 2'-FL in infant formula products in the Food Standards Code, with exclusive use permission for 15 months, linked to the brand name 'Aequival®'.

Nāku noa, nā

