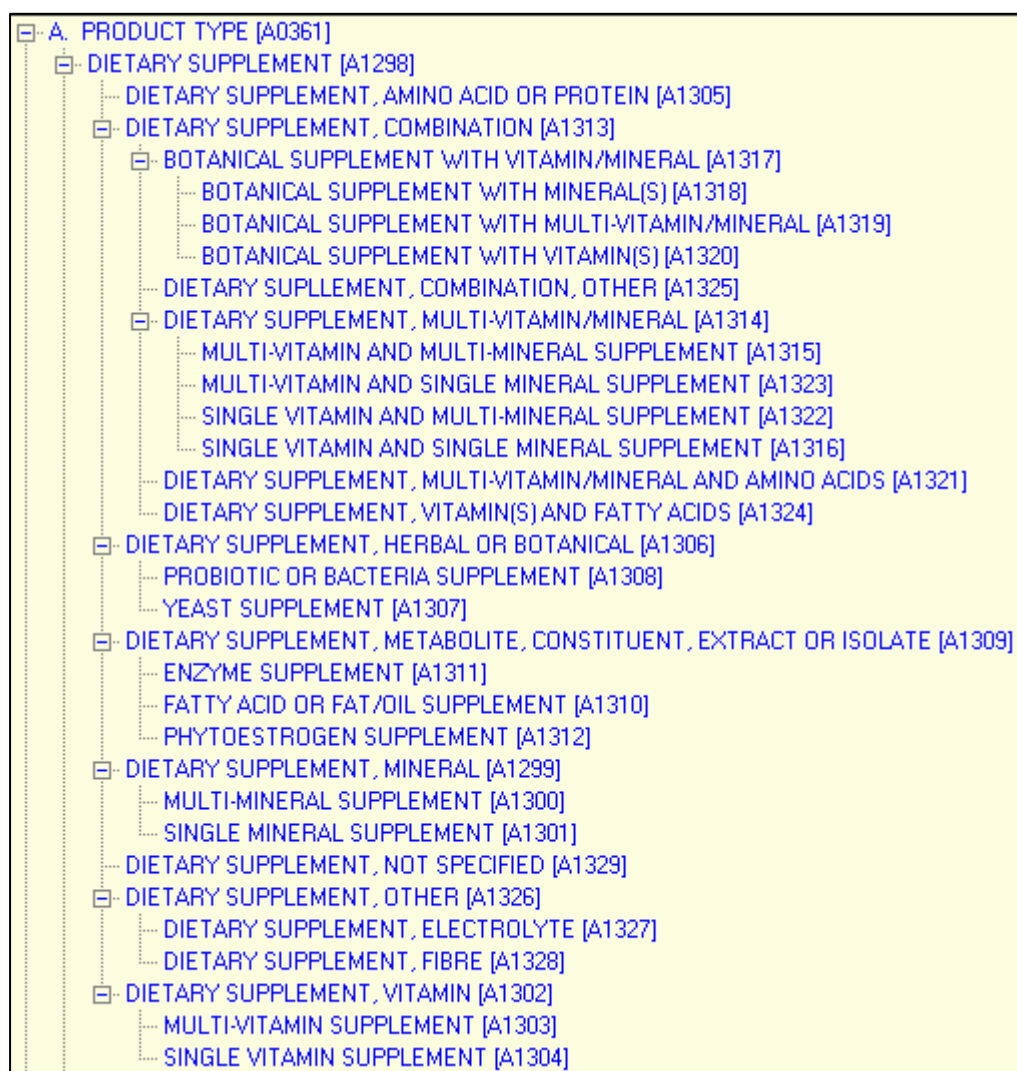


LanguaL proposal concerning DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS 2014

Main types of dietary supplements are currently indexed using the following hierarchy in facet “A. PRODUCT TYPE” of the LanguaL thesaurus:



This classification was agreed upon by the U.S. Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS, NIH), U.S. Nutrient Data Laboratory (USDA/ARS/BHNR), Finnish National Institute for Health and Welfare (Fineli), Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) and the French Food Safety Agency (AFSSA), as it was seen to respect most of the needs of already existing databases on dietary supplements. Supplement form (e.g. tablet, capsule), ingredients, intended user groups, and nutrition/health claims are indexed using other LanguaL facets.¹

The subgroups **METABOLITE, EXTRACT OR ISOLATE SUPPLEMENT [A1309]** and **DIETARY SUPPLEMENT, OTHER [A1326]** were originally requested by the ODS, as they correspond to U.S. legislation. However, recent experience in indexing dietary supplements has shown that these subgroups are not meaningful to coders and can lead to errors. The ODS has therefore proposed modification of these two subgroups:

- (1) **METABOLITE, EXTRACT OR ISOLATE SUPPLEMENT [A1309]** to be renamed “**NON-NUTRIENT/NON-BOTANICAL SUPPLEMENT**”.

Its narrower terms would then be :

¹ LanguaL proposals for Dietary supplements 2010-07-22.pdf

- a. ENZYME SUPPLEMENT [A1311]
 - b. PHYTOESTROGEN SUPPLEMENT [A1312]
 - c. PROBIOTIC OR BACTERIA SUPPLEMENT [A1308]
- (2) DIETARY SUPPLEMENT, OTHER [A1326] to be renamed “**OTHER NUTRITIVE SUPPLEMENT**”.
Examples include fiber, carbohydrates, fatty acids (lipids), omega-3’s, or combination of any of these.
Its narrower terms would then be :
- a. DIETARY SUPPLEMENT, FIBRE [A1328]
 - b. ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENT [A1327]
 - c. FATTY ACID OR FAT/OIL SUPPLEMENT [A1310]

These proposals appear justified, as they are based on practical experience. Before including them in the LanguaL 2014 version, we would like the advice of other groups that have used the current system for supplements elsewhere in Europe or the world. Also, if they have any further suggestions/needs for indexing dietary supplements.