Appendix A

Selected readings on dietary intake data collection methodology

As noted in Chapter 4, this topic has been one of lively debate over many years, centring on precision, accuracy and comparability of data collections. The methods of dietary data collection most commonly employed in Australia have been 24-hour recall, 24-hour record and semi-quantitative food frequency questionnaire estimates of usual intake, and the suggested readings below focus largely but not exclusively on these methods.

The following publications provide a comprehensive introduction to the area:

Transactions of the Menzies Foundation 1981;3 (Volume title: The assessment of nutritional status).

Vital Health Statistics 4 1992;27:1–108 (Dietary methodology workshop for the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. March 1986.

European Journal of Clinical Nutrition 1993;47(suppl 2):S1–S77 (Validation, measurement of error and quality control in nutritional epidemiology. Symposium proceedings. Berlin, October 1992).

American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 1994;59(1 suppl):143S–306S (1st International Conference on Dietary Assessment Methods: assessing diets to improve world health).

The following discussion in the Australian Journal of Nutrition and Dietetics is also relevant:

Sempos CT, Briefel RR, Flegal KM, Johnson C, Murphy RS, Wotecki CE. Factors involved in selecting a dietary survey methodology for national nutrition surveys. Aust J Nutr Diet 1992;49(3):96–101.

Baghurst KI. The food frequency technique and its relevance to population surveys in Australia—a commentary. Aust J Nutr Diet 1992;49(3):101–103

Sempos CT, Briefel RR, Flegal KM, Johnson C, Murphy RS, Wotecki CE. Reply to Dr Baghurst's commentary. Aust J Nutr Diet 1992;49(3):103–104.

Selected reading

It is emphasised that this is a selection rather than a comprehensive bibliography. Its intention is to give an overview of the thinking in the area of dietary intake data collection in recent years. Only English language publications are included and the list is also restricted to sources that are relatively well-known and accessible, and is sorted by journal to assist with searching.

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Mertz W, Tsui JC, Judd JT, et al. What are people really eating? The relation between energy intake derived from estimated diet records and intake determined to maintain body weight Am J Clin Nutr 1991; 54: 291-295.

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Hankin JH, Wilkens LR, Kolonel LN, et al. Validation of a quantitative diet history method in Hawaii Am J Epidemiol 1991; 133: 616-628.

Rimm EB, Giovannucci EL, Stampfer MJ, et al. Reproducibility and validity of an expanded self-administered semiquantitative food frequency questionnaire among male health professionals Am J Epidemiol 1992; 135: 1114-1126.

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