

The Final Product Score (Comparative Guide to NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS p 64 - 65)

Qualifying products are assessed quantitatively to provide a percentage ranking relative to the Blended Standard. Fourteen criteria are employed in determining relative product standings. The criterion penalizes the product if the formulation exceeds defined limits for those nutrients with potential cumulative toxicities.

1.Completeness – Does the product contain the full spectrum listed in the Blended Standard and considered essential for Optimal Health?

2.Potency – Of these nutrients in the product, what percent are found at potency levels meeting or exceeding 50 percent of the potency for those nutrients in the Blended Standard?

3.Bioavailability – Does the product contain minerals in their bioavailable forms as amino acid chelates or organic acid complexes?

4.Bioactivity of Vitamin E – Does the product contain only the d-isomer of Vitamin E (the natural, biologically active form of alpha tocopherol) or does the product use the d/l isomers of Vitamin E (a synthetic form, where the biological activity is about one-half [or less] of the natural Vitamin E)?

5.Cardiac Health Triad – Does the product contain Vitamin E, coenzyme Q10 and magnesium, three nutritional components important to cardiac health, at potencies that meet or exceed 50 percent of the Blended Standard?

6.Homocysteine Reduction Triad – Does the product contain the nutritional triad of vitamin B, vitamin B12 and folic acid, at levels meeting or exceeding 50 % of the Blended Standard?

7.Bone Health Complex – Does the product contain the nutrients shown by clinical studies to be important for optimal bone health (vitamin D, vitamin K, folic acid, vitamin B, vitamin B12, boron, calcium, magnesium, silicon and zinc) at potencies equal to or exceeding 50 % of the potencies listed in the Blended Standard?

8.Antioxidant Triad – Does the product contain the important antioxidant triad of vitamin E, vitamin C and beta-carotene at potencies equal to or exceeding 50 % of the potencies listed in the Blended Standard?

9.Glutathione Support – Does the product contain the nutritional precursors necessary for glutathione synthesis and the proper functioning of the Glutathione Peroxidase Pathway at potencies equal to or exceeding 50 % of the potencies listed in the Blended Standard?

10.Metaabolic Support – Does the product contain the nutrients necessary to help regulate glucose metabolism and support the body's ability to generate, store and utilize energy and are these nutrients available at potencies equal to or exceeding 50 % of the potencies listed in the Blended Standard?

11.Bioflavonoid Profile – Does the product contain a mixture of bioflavonoids (citrus flavonoids, soy isoflavones, quercetin, quercitrin, hesperidin, rutin, bilberry extract and green tea catechins) and proanthocyanidins at potencies that meet or exceed 50 % of the combined recommended potencies for PCOs and mixed bioflavonoids in the Blended Standard?

12.Phenolic Compound Profile – Does the product contain phenolic compounds (polyphenolic acids and their derivatives, including curcumin) at a potency level recently established in the literature (25 mg) that has been associated with a reduced incidence of coronary heart disease?

13.Lipotropic Factors – Does the product contain the important lipotropic factors, choline (including phosphatidylcholine) and inositol, at levels meeting or exceeding 50 % of the Blended Standard?

14.Potential Toxicities – Does the nutritional supplement contain levels of vitamin A and iron that exceed 100 % of the Blended Standard?

From these 14 criteria, a Final Product Score is calculated. A score approaching 100% represents a product that possess those characteristics for optimal nutrition, conversely, a low percent score represents a product possessing few, if any, of the characteristics for optimal nutrition, as reflected in the Blended Standard.