



FACT SHEET Vending Machines

Introduction

Green Light Eat Right (GLER) is a program aimed at improving the range and access to nutritious food in the City of Melbourne. The program enables consumers to make more informed food choices.

A criteria based on a traffic light system is used to assess and label food according to either, Green (Healthiest Choice), Amber (Ok choice) or Red (Less Healthy Choice).

The objectives of the overall GLER program include:

- Increase the proportion of healthy food options in the City of Melbourne;
- Improve consumer awareness about the Green Light, Eat Right program;
- Provide a classification system that allows consumers to make an informed choice;
- Increase the proportion of Green Light, Eat Right participating businesses;
- Encourage food providers to offer healthy food options within the community.

The elements of the program to date include:

- **Food Business** – QV Urban Pilot (May to November 2009)- small to medium food businesses were required to have their menus assessed by the GLER criteria. All food items were labelled at the point of sale.
- **Vending Machines** – provision of healthy packaged food options.
- **Recreation Centres** – North Melbourne Recreation Centre, Carlton Baths Community Centre and Kensington Recreation Centre, incorporate the traffic light system into their canteens/kiosk. Canteen/kiosk menus are assessed and classified according to the GLER criteria.

GLER Objectives for Vending Machines

- Work towards a product ratio of 50% (green):30% (amber):20% (red) where possible.
- Increase the number of GLER vending machines within the City of Melbourne.
- Improve consumer awareness about the Green Light Eat Right traffic light system in vending machines.

GLER Criteria for Vending Machines

Packaged products and drinks are classified into three categories according to their nutritional value and size as either Green (Healthiest Choice), Amber (Ok choice) or Red (Less Healthy Choice). Nutrition Australia has specifically developed a GLER criteria for the program based on industry accepted buyers guides such as 'Healthy Kids – 2010 Buyers Guide', Nutritional Information Panels (NIP) and existing guidelines such as the Department of Health's 'Healthy Choices: food and drink guidelines for Victorian public hospitals' and 'Go For your Life – Healthy Canteen Kit'.

GLER Vending Machines and Products

City of Melbourne has engaged Nutrition Australia, for technical expertise and partnered with Snack Savvy Vending, a local vending operator. The vending machines are purchased new by the vending operator and available in various sizes pending on the venue requirements. Energy ratings are considered. Snack Savvy Vending manage the operation and function of the vending machine, including product restocking through to servicing. There is a 24 hour contact number placed on the machine.

A product list has been developed by the City of Melbourne, Nutrition Australia and Snack Savvy Vending which is classified using the GLER criteria. Products are only included if they meet the GLER criteria.

GLER Vending Machine Locations

Currently there are two GLER vending machines located at City of Melbourne Recreations Centres – Melbourne City Baths and North Melbourne Recreation Centre.

Enquiries

To find out more about GLER vending machines, go to the City of Melbourne website www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/publichealth .

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