

Neptune Wellness Solutions notified the European Commission of their intent to market their lipid extract from Antarctic krill (*Euphausia superba*), Neptune Krill Oil® (NKO®), with extended uses in food supplements that provide levels of EPA + DHA of up to 3 g/day for the general population and 450 mg/day for pregnant and lactating women.

The notification was based on a successful request of substantial equivalence to the Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira in order to bring the uses of NKO® in line with other authorized EPA- and DHA-containing products, such as algal and krill oils, already available on the market in the European Union (EU).

In addition to the authorized health claims for EPA and DHA, Neptune’s customers can make claims related to the health benefits of choline. Krill oil contains choline due to its phospholipid content, which is not present in most traditional fish oils.

The most common authorized claims used for NKO® food supplement products currently marketed in the European Union are as follows:

Health Relationship	Claim
Omega-3 Fatty Acids EPA and DHA	
Heart Health	EPA and DHA contribute to the normal function of the heart
Brain Health	DHA contributes to maintenance of normal brain function
Eye Health	DHA contributes to the maintenance of normal vision
Choline	
Normal Metabolism	Choline contributes to normal homocysteine metabolism
	Choline contributes to normal lipid metabolism
Liver Health	Choline contributes to the maintenance of normal liver function

Consult the regulation at : http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling_nutrition/claims/register/public/?event=register.home

At higher doses of NKO®, where EPA and DHA are provided *via* food supplements at levels of intake of 2 and 3 g/day, claims related to the contribution of EPA and DHA to the maintenance of normal triglyceride levels and normal blood pressure, respectively, could be used.

Krill oil has been approved as a novel food ingredient in the EU since Neptune gained approval for NKO® in 2009. From 2018, the new novel food regulation will establish a generic Union List of approved ingredients and their permitted specifications and uses. To this end, Neptune is participating in an effort led by Intertek and involving other krill oil producers to prepare a proposed standard in order to assist the Commission in obtaining a harmonised list entry ahead of the anticipated rush of submissions at the end of the year.