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**Topic:** Law and regulation in public health nutrition

**Title:** Front-of-package food labelling types available in Mexico, Argentina, Chile & Costa Rica during the obesity epidemic

**Presentation Type:** Poster

**Introduction:** Implementing a clear nutrition labelling strategy has been recommended as one of a set of policies to prevent obesity. The nature and extent of FOP labelling components in foods for sale in Latin America have not been evaluated yet.

**Objective:** To map and classify the types of front-of-package labelling existing on foods in four Latin America Countries on different packaged food categories to provide evidence for monitoring, evaluating and develop appropriate and effective policies within and across countries.

**Methods:** FOP foods and non-alcoholic beverages from 6 different food categories adapted from the WHO nutrient profile model were sampled from grocery stores across four LAC: Mexico, Argentina, Chile, and Costa Rica, and photographed to identify the types of labels available on different products. Assessment and classification of FOP food-labelling components was performed using the international standardized INFORMAS taxonomy. Differences between countries and food categories were analyzed.

**Results:** A total of 1,973 foods and drinks were included in the analysis. Almost half of them displayed at least one claim and a third of them displayed the GDA nutritional system. Overall, 21% of all food products carried a promotional character and only 2% a premium offer. Nutritional claims were the most common. Breakfast cereals was the category that displayed the major quantity of FOP labelling components per food product.

**Conclusions:** The presence of FOP food labelling components is widespread across LAC. This study provides important information for authorities and policy makers to regulate the use of FOP food labelling components.

