AAFCO “Human Grade” Pet Food Standard Checklist

AAFCO developed the following standard for making voluntary “human grade” pet food claims on pet food and specialty pet food labeling. This standard must be met when applying under the USDA Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) Process Verified Program (PVP).

1. Prepare QAD 1001A PVP Checklist.
2. Identify program documents and sections that address each criterion
3. Explanations and/or comments must be provided to provide enough evidence of conformance or non-conformance, as applicable.

**NOTE:** When this Addendum is complete, print to ADOBE and add to the audit documentation. Do NOT copy and Paste to a 1001A Checklist.

☐ Audit the program using the checklist below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AAFCO Human Grade Pet Food Standard Criteria</th>
<th>Conform (Y/N?)</th>
<th>Objective Evidence/Findings/Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ingredients</td>
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<tr>
<td>In the AAFCO defined feed term “human grade”, the use of the term “human grade” is only acceptable in reference to the product as a whole.</td>
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<tr>
<td>a) The firm has documented that all included ingredients were stored, handled, processed and transported in a manner that is consistent and compliant with 21 CFR part 117 and those applicable federal human food laws as required by ingredient, process and/or facility type.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) The firm has documented that all individual ingredients supplied to the manufacturer that are further utilized in the manufacture of human grade pet food are fit for human consumption.</td>
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<td>2. Facility</td>
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<td>It shall be the manufacturing firm’s responsibility to ensure it is able to manufacture in a human food facility and be licensed and inspected by the authorized</td>
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agency for human food production. Human Grade Pet Food claims are voluntary.

a) The facility is registered and/or licensed to produce human food by all appropriate/required authorities (both federal and state or local).

b) The facility is registered as both an FDA animal food facility and human food facility.

3. Inspection

A 21 CFR part 117 GMP equivalency audit shall be conducted annually by Agriculture Marketing Service through the Process Verified Program unless the facility has been inspected for compliance by an agency with enforcement authority with applicable food safety regulations within the last year.

a) The facility has been inspected for compliance by an agency with enforcement authority with applicable food safety regulations within the last year. Date of Audit? 

b) If no, conduct the 21 CFR part 117 equivalency audit.

4. Written Procedures (Ref Standards 4-6)

a) The firm maintains written procedures to ensure “human grade” products were stored, transported, and handled throughout the distribution channel in a manner that maintains the product’s “human grade” status.
b) In an **FDA regulated facility**, the firm can demonstrate that every ingredient and the resulting product is stored, handled, processed, and transported in a manner that is consistent and compliant with 21 CFR part 117 and the final product is considered ready-to-eat.

c) In a **non-FDA regulated facility**, the firm can demonstrate that the processing or packing of the “Human Grade” Pet Food is conducted in an area/room identified within the facilities required HACCP/Food Safety Plan as an area/room dedicated to the blending, packaging, repackaging and/or labeling of ready-to-eat food.

7. **Label**

The manufacturer of a pet food or specialty pet food product with “human grade” claims must ensure the following:

a) It is clearly labeled for its intended use as animal food, and each use of “human grade” must be coupled with the statement of intended use such as “human grade dog food” or “human grade cat treats”

b) The label is in compliance with all applicable labeling rules, including any voluntary labeling allowed under participation in the Agriculture Marketing Service Process Verified Program.

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