

ORISE Fellowship Program

Project Title:

Review, compilation and reporting of results from FDA's Total Diet Study

Description of Work:

FDA's Total Diet Study (TDS) has been an important component of FDA's food safety monitoring since the early 1960s. In the TDS, samples of about 280 different foods are collected 4 times a year and are analyzed for more than 300 contaminants (pesticide residues, toxic elements, environmental chemicals). The analytical results provide valuable information about trends in the levels of contaminants in the US food supply. The results are also combined with national food consumption data to estimate the dietary exposure of the US population to these contaminants. Contaminant levels and dietary exposure estimates for the US are also compared to data from other countries to monitor trends worldwide. TDS results are posted on FDA's website and are published in peer-reviewed journals. This assistance will include collaborative work to review, compile and evaluate TDS analytical results and to calculate, present, and publish dietary exposure estimates.

The incumbent will provide technical support for the project and participate as a member of the Chemical Hazard Assessment Team (CHAT), which conducts critical assessments of dietary exposures to chemical contaminants. The responsibilities include evaluating and compiling results reported by the analyzing laboratories, assessing data quality, maintaining separate databases of results by contaminant group (pesticides, elements, industrial chemicals), calculating descriptive statistics for TDS results, developing procedures and protocols for these tasks to ensure consistency and transparency in managing TDS data. This research will enable FDA to evaluate TDS results in a timely manner, and will provide valuable food safety monitoring data to other government agencies, international food safety organizations, industry, and the public.

Duration of Fellowship: 2 years

Stipend: \$5,082 / Month – Year 1; \$5,235 / Month – Year 2

Relocation expense: \$10,000

Location: FDA/Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
5100 Paint Branch Pkwy.
College Park, MD 20740

Contact:

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