RAC Meeting Minutes (December 16, 1999)

12:00 - 4:00 EST
Washington DC

In attendance:

Mary Batholomew (CVM, FDA, HHS)
Margaret Coleman (FSIS, USDA)
Elaine Francis (ORD, EPA)
David Gaylor (NCTR, FDA)
Dennis Lang (NIH, HHS)
Wes Long (JIFSAN, FDA,HHS)
Michael McElvaine (ORACBA, USDA)
Tanya Roberts (ERS, USDA)
Angela Ruple (NMFS,DC)
Steve Schaub (OW, EPA)
Richard Whiting (CFSAN, FDA,HHS)
Margaret Miller (OWH, FDA,HHS)

Absent:

David Armstrong (NCFST, FDA,HHS)
Eileen Choffnes (OPPTS, EPA)
Emilio Esteban-Vaz (CDC,HHS)
Robert McDowell (APHIS, USDA)
Tom Oscar (ARS, USDA)
Scott Severin (VSA DOD)
Mary Torrence (CSREES,USDA)

I. Introduction of new member agency

The FDA Office of Women's Health (OWH) has joined the interagency Risk Assessment Consortium (RAC). The mission of the OWH is to serve as a champion for women's health issues. More information about the OWH can be found at http://www.fda.gov/womens/mission.html. The OWH representative (as well as policy council member) is Dr. Margaret Ann Miller. In this capacity, Dr. Miller will provide information and resources about women's health to the RAC member agencies, and provide assurance that women's issues are adequately considered and addressed. Dr. Miller formerly represented the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine on the RAC and brings with her a wealth of experience in food safety and risk assessment.

II. Setting date for next two quarterly meetings

The next two quarterly RAC meetings will be held all day on March 23, 2000 and June 6, 2000. It is anticipated that both of these meetings will be for RAC member agencies only, and the following quarterly meeting will be conducted publicly in conjunction with an appropriate professional society conference (e.g. Society for Microbiology, Society of Toxicologists, Institute of Food Technology, or others).

III. Discussion of draft Risk Assessments: Public Health Impact of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* in Raw Molluscan Shellfish; and Public Health Impact of Foodborne *Listeria monocytogenes*

An hour and a half was allowed for discussion of each of the two risk assessments. The FDA risk assessment teams presented brief overviews of the documents. All member agencies were

provided a brief opportunity to comment. Follow-up and in-depth comments were requested in writing.