

**Interagency Risk Assessment Consortium
Winter Technical Quarterly Meeting Report
December 2, 2009**

Technical Meeting: 9:00 – 10:30 am

Introductions

Each attendee gave a brief overview of their responsibilities

“5 minute” Agency Updates

Department of Defense

- The US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine has been reorganized and renamed the US Army Public Health Command. This will include all public health activities, including food safety and zoonotic diseases.

Department of Health and Human Services

Food and Drug Administration Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (FDA CFSAN)

- Retail *Listeria monocytogenes*-University of Maryland student observation study is completed. The data are being integrated into the model.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC has undergone a re-organization such that the former enteric diseases epidemiology branch has been separated into two branches, to enhance the surveillance capabilities of CDC:
 - Long term surveillance
 - Outbreak investigations

National Center for Toxicological Research (FDA/NCTR)

- NCTR is establishing an Integrated Knowledge Base for *Salmonella*, based on existing available data.

United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

- The catfish risk assessment should be completed in January. There will be a rulemaking, followed by five public meetings.
- A quantitative risk assessment for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in poultry is being undertaken. The information will be used to update the performance standards for *Salmonella* and set new standards for *Campylobacter* for industry to meet.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

- NIFA is preparing a Request for Applications which should be released in February.

Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)

- APHIS is reorganizing their Risk Analysis systems to include environmental risk analysis to look at impact of various mitigation strategies.

IRAC Work Group Updates and Discussion

Nanotechnology and Risk Assessment Work Group

- An outline for a white paper has been drafted

Susceptible populations Work Group

- The Work Group participated in organizing a workshop on “Healthy Foods as we age” in October – a science writer will draft notes from this meeting for publication.
- The work group held an “invitation only” workshop on identifying and characterizing susceptible populations in January, 2010.

Nutritional Risk assessment

- This group will be terminated

Proposed new work groups

Experimental design to support risk assessment

- This group will be reorganized and renamed: Standardize experimental design and sampling plans to improve data quality for risk assessment

Mechanistic approach to dose-response using *Listeria monocytogenes* as case study

- Sherri Dennis will develop a proposal for this new work group.

Updating the IRAC Charter

- The group agreed to update the IRAC Charter to reflect changes since it was last updated in 2003. In addition, it was felt that there is a need to “revitalize” IRAC, and obtain new signatories to the Charter. Sherri Dennis and Isabel Walls will take the lead on this.

Discussion on Annual Plan for FY10

- Isabel Walls will update the Annual Plan for FY2010.

Website

- The group agreed that the website needs to be revisited. The website for IRAC information is hosted by JIFSAN’s **FoodRisk.org**.

In attendance (* participated by phone):

Sherri Dennis, DHHS/FDA/CFSAN

Sharon Edelson-Mammel, DHHS/FDA/CFSAN

Steve Gendel, DHHS/FDA/CFSAN

Gabriel Intano, DOD/PHC

Janell Kause, USDA/FSIS

Heejeong Latimer, USDA/FSIS

Andrew McCabe, DHHS/CDC

Robert McDowell, USDA APHIS

Marianne Miliotis, DHHS/FDA/CFSAN

Wendy Hall, USDA/ APHIS

Isabel Walls, USDA NIFA

Wen Zou, DHHS/FDA/NCTR*