

Interagency Risk Assessment Consortium
Technical Representatives Quarterly Meeting
FDA/CFSAN, College Park, MD
September 20, 2011

Welcome and Introductions

The Interagency Risk Assessment Consortium (IRAC) held its 2011 fall quarterly meeting of the technical committee and policy council on September 20th in College Park, MD. Chair Isabel Walls welcomed the group and asked for self introductions. Technical and policy representatives and guests from various agencies participated on site or by the phone.

Participants: (*by phone)

Barry Hooberman*, David Oryang, Denise Eblen, Frank Hearl, Isabel Walls, Jane Van Doren, Kerry Dearfield, Mike Broder*, Regis Pouillot, Sandra Hoffmann, Sherri Dennis, Stic Harris*, Wen Zou, Wendy Fanaselle, Wendy Hall*, Jim Chen*, Hoshing Chang, Perry Chumley, Mickey Parish, Mark Powell*, Karin Hoelzer, Shanker Reddy*, Aaron Niman*

Technical Meeting

Technical representatives in attendance gave a brief overview of food safety risk analysis projects and issues in their agencies that may be of interest to other agencies.

Presentations

- (1) *Prediction of Salmonella Serotypes Based on PFGE Patterns and NCTR Foodborne Pathogen Knowledgebase*, Wen Zou, NCTR – presented by Wen Zou, Ph.D., NCTR
- (2) *Risk Prioritization at FDA* – presented by David Oryang, FDA

Policy Council Meeting

Discussions on Annual Plan for FY11 & IRAC Strategic Plan

- Reviewed quarterly meetings, workgroups and upcoming workshops/meetings/symposia – most of which have already been described in reports on these projects above. Additional items are described below.
- Annual Public Meeting – after much discussion the group decided on tentative plan for a meeting in spring 2012 that would discuss interagency collaborations and common topics. A tentative date was set - March 22, 2011, locations discussed, and a tentative meeting plan was sketched out
 1. Provide short Agency updates that highlight risk assessment activities and their contribution to food safety
 2. Discuss the continuum of risk assessment tools utilized by our agencies, possibly focusing on risk profiles as an alternative to quantitative risk assessment that can better suited to the needs of the risk managers/agency in some instances
 3. Description of the National Residue Program, highlighting the collaborative nature of this program
 4. Description of the development of dose-response relationship for *Listeria monocytogenes*, highlighting collaborations and issues involved.
- Co-sponsoring Meetings/Symposia: IRAC-sponsored Symposium for IAFP 2012 (proposed by Yuhuan Chen): *Making a Difference: Data Collection for Risk Assessments through Innovative Approaches* – proposal shared with IRAC members before the meeting

- Proposal was reviewed and accepted by the group; discussion then focused on providing ideas for speakers and topics
- Providing information on IRAC to agency communications departments to share on information booths - *discussed the development of a “fact sheet” for IRAC that would be available to share at public meetings and also available from the website; FDA will share examples of their risk assessment fact sheets with IRAC (links provided in agency update section)*
- Increasing our online presence through updating and expanding our webpage (www.foodrisk.org/irac) – Isabel will be updating the website.
- Maintaining a list of emerging issues in food safety risk assessment – the group decided to put this on the agenda of our next quarterly meeting
- Maintain a list of food safety risk assessment data gaps and research needs
- Briefly discussed the use of IRAC to provide technical feedback on draft risk assessments developed by member agencies and reaffirmed the utility of this process for some agencies and our commitment for IRAC to continue to serve in this capacity.