



U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Office of Women's Health



Interagency Risk Assessment Consortium



Annual Report



November 30, 2006



Office of Prevention, Pesticides,
and Toxic Substances

Office of Research & Development

**INTERAGENCY RISK ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM
AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES**

Policy Council Members

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Gregg Claycamp, FDA/CVM
Kerry Dearfield, USDA/FSIS (Co-chair, Policy Council)
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Ralph Kodell, FDA/NCTR
Arthur Liang, CDC
James Lindsay, USDA/ARS
Michael McElvaine, USDA/ORACBA
Jacqueline McQueen, EPA/ORD
Judy Nelson, EPA/OPPTS
Tanya Roberts, USDA/ERS
Stephen Schaub, EPA/OW
Mary Torrence, USDA/CSREES
Margaret Venuto, USDA/FNS
Gary Vroegindewey, DOD/VSA

Technical Member Representatives

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Sharon Edelson Mammel, FDA/CFSAN (Executive Secretary)
Robert Hall, NIH/NIAID
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Katherine Hollinger, FDA/OWH
Barry Hooberman, FDA/CVM
Andy Hwang, USDA/ARS
Wesley Long, FDA/CFSAN (JIFSAN liaison)
Michael McElvaine, USDA/ORACBA
Jacqueline McQueen, EPA/ORD
Marianne Miliotis, FDA/CFSAN (Chair, Technical Committee)
Tanya Roberts, USDA/ERS
Angela Ruple, NOAA Marine Fisheries Services
Stephen Schaub, EPA/OW
Donald Sharp, CDC
Brandolyn Thran, DOD/CHPPM
Mary Torrence, USDA/CSREES
Margaret Venuto, USDA/FNS
Richard Whiting, FDA/CFSAN

INTERAGENCY RISK ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY06

1. Information Sharing/ Networking

The RAC continued having its technical quarterly meetings, where the technical representatives of the member agencies exchange risk assessment and risk assessment –related research information.

2. Quarterly Meeting Presentations

The RAC has continued to include technical presentations on a variety of topics related to risk assessment and food safety during each quarterly meeting. These topics include:

- a. "Food Safety Standards and Private-Public Sector Cooperation" by Jean Busby, USDA/ERS
- b. "NHSRC Research Program in Support of Microbial Risk Assessment" by Dr. Tonya Nichols, EPA/ NHSRC
- c. "The OMB Proposed Risk Assessment Bulletin" by Nancy Beck, OMB
- d. "An Introduction to Expert Elicitation for Environmental Decision Making in a Regulatory Process" by Neil Stiber, EPA/ORD
- e. "Update on FoodNet Activities" by Elaine Scallan, CDC/ FDDB
- f. Mini symposium on "Update of TSE/BSE Activities at:
 - o APHIS: Lisa Ferguson, DVM
 - o FDA/CVM: Burt Pritchett, DVM
 - o FDA/CFSAN: Rebecca Buckner
 - o USDA/FSIS/RAD: Chuanfa Guo, Ph.D.

3. Work Group Projects

The IRAC accomplishes much of its work through working groups formed to address specific topics or issues. Below are the accomplishments and activities of these working groups for FY06.

Microbiological Criteria

A paper on "Determining the microbiological criteria for lot rejection from the performance objective or food safety objective" developed by the work group was published in August in the International Journal of Food Microbiology **10**:263-267, 2006.

Nutritional Risk Assessment

A workshop is being planned for February 28 – March 1, 2007 at the National Academies building in Washington DC in collaboration with IOM Food Forum and ILSI, ASPE. The title of the workshop is: "Nutritional Risk Assessment: Bridging Perspectives, Sharing Methodologies, Identifying Data Challenges". The workshop will serve as a forum for experts on various disciplines to discuss the use of risk assessment tools to inform dietary and nutritional recommendations. It will address use of risk assessment to evaluate standards for adequate nutrient intake and to explore the relationship of diet and nutrition to chronic disease risk. The final objective of this workshop is to identify next steps necessary to advance in these areas. The workshop will cover four areas: interface between RA and Nutrition, Uses of Nutritional RA, Evidence-based methods in nutrition, and Research gaps/needs. This may be the first of several workshops depending on the reactions to the meeting. This will be a substantial meeting attracting leaders in RA and Nutrition. The announcement can be found on the RAC web site on the JIFSAN Clearinghouse.

4. Annual Meetings/Workshops/Symposia

1. Co-hosted a highly successful symposium on "Relating Microbiological Testing and Microbiological Criteria to Public Health Goals", October 31-November 1, 2005 in Washington, DC.
2. Held a symposium on "The Status of Data Utility in Health Risk Assessment and Decision" at the SRA annual meeting, December 5, 2005.