



Technical Representatives Quarterly Meeting
September 26, 2013; *Meeting Minutes*

Welcome and Introductions

The Interagency Risk Assessment Consortium (IRAC) held its 2013 fall quarterly meeting of the Technical Committee September 26, 2013. The meeting was hosted by CDC/NIOSH in Washington, DC. Technical and policy representatives and guests from various agencies (Table 1) participated on site or by phone.

“5 minute” Agency Updates

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.

Department of Health and Human Services

Food and Drug Administration Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (FDA/CFSAN)
Jane Van Doren reported on a number of risk assessment projects underway.

Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products
Phil Yeager briefly discussed some CTP initiatives.

United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety Inspection Service (USDA/FSIS)
Rachel Johnson reported on a number of ongoing projects.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS)
Wendy Hall reported on a number of initiatives at APHIS.

Economic Research Service
Sandra Hoffmann reported on ongoing work.

Food and Nutrition Service (USDA/FNS)
Margaret Venuto reported on ongoing work.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA)
Jodi Williams discussed some ongoing projects.

Office of Risk Assessment and Cost Benefit Analysis (USDA/OCE/ORACBA)

Linda Abbott discussed an upcoming workshop sponsored in part by ORACBA.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Marguerite Pappaioanou reported some CDC activities.

Department of Defense

Veterinary Service Activity (DOD/VSA)

Derron Alves reported on a number of projects and activities.

US Army Public Health Command (DOD/USAPHC)

Gabriel Intano reported on a number of risk assessment projects and activities.

Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Research and Development (EPA/ORD)

Mike Broder reported on several risk assessment activities. He indicated that the microbial risk assessment guideline was peer-reviewed and the final version is available from

<http://www.epa.gov/raf/microbial.htm>

Office of Water

Shamima Akhter reported on EPA initiatives.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA/NMFS)

Angela Ruple reported on a number of ongoing projects.

Discussions of New Activities

New workgroups

The IRAC Policy Council approved the three new workgroup proposals listed below. Next steps are to finalize revision of the proposals and for workgroup leads to send out a call for additional participation.

- A. *Risk Communication: Improving Internal Processes and Outcomes* – Rachel Johnson-DeRycke (USDA/FSIS) will coordinate call for participation and first meeting.
- B. *Food Access, Nutrition, and Risk of Foodborne Illness* – Janell Kause (USDA/FSIS), Robert Hall (NIH/NIAID), and Linda Abbott (USDA/ORACBA) will coordinate call for participation and first meeting.
- C. *Evaluation of Dietary Assessment Tools* – Alex Domesle (USDA/FSIS) will coordinate call for participation and first meeting.

Potential Participation in or Organization of Scientific Meetings

- Participants volunteered key meetings members may be interested in and discussed the possibility and timing of potential submitted symposia.
 - IAFP – International Association for Food Protection – July 2014
 - SRA – Society for Risk Analysis – Dec 2013; Dec 2014
 - ISES – International Society for Exposure Science – Oct 2014
- IRAC Workshop, perhaps joint with SRA, SOT (Society of Toxicology) on cumulative risk assessment. Discussion followed on the possible content of such a workshop. Mike Broder agreed to continue to develop this idea.

IRAC Website & Member Survey

- Website updates were reviewed. Meeting participants provided suggestions about additional content and functionality that would be helpful to IRAC members. It was decided that a smaller committee be formed to develop plans for the website.
- A draft member survey was shared with IRAC members and its content discussed with the group. It was decided to wait for additional feedback from members who were not able to attend the meeting. Once feedback has been incorporated, the survey will be sent to the full list of IRAC participants.

Presentation

“The Performance on Pathogen Tests of Ground Beef Suppliers to the National School Lunch Program,” Michael Ollinger, Economic Research Service, USDA. The presentation reported on research addressing the question of whether suppliers of ground beef to the National School Lunch Program perform better on *Salmonella* tests than other plants producing ground beef. Preliminary results and conclusions were presented.

Table 1. Attendance (participated onsite or by phone)

Last Name	First Name	Agency
Abbott	Linda	USDA ORACBA
Akhter	Shamima	EPA OW
Alves	Derron	DOD VSA
Broder	Mike	EPA
Calvey	Beth	FDA CFSAN
Chen	Yuhuan	FDA CFSAN
Dennis	Sherri	FDA CSFAN
Domesle	Alexander	USDA FSIS
Hall	Wendy	USDA FSIS
Hoffmann	Sandra	USDA ERS
Intano	Gabriel	US Army Public Health Command
Johnson -DeRycke	Rachel	USDA FSIS
Kause	Janell	USDA FSIS
Niman	Aaron	EPA OPP
Mao	Rebecca	CDC NIOSH
Ollinger	Michael	USDA ERS
Pappaioanou	Marguerite	FDA CFSAN
Ruple	Angela	NOAA NMFS
Silverman	Meryl	USDA FSIS
Solomotis	Marianne	FDA CFSAN
Schroeder	Carl	USDA AMS
Shanker	Reddy	USDA AMS
Spungen	Judith	FDA CFSAN
Van Doren	Jane	FDA CFSAN
Venuto	Margaret	USDA FNS
Williams	Jodi	USDA NIFA
Yaeger	Phil	FDA CTP
Zou	Wen	FDA NCTR