IFSAC Foodborne Illness Source Attribution: FDA Perspective

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Overview

• Vision: Risk-informed Food Safety System
• Role of IFSAC
• Importance IFSAC foodborne illness source attribution estimates to FDA
• Future Directions and FDA Needs
The Call for an Improved, Risk-Informed Food Safety System

The Food Safety Modernization Act and a 2010 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report both provide strong impetus for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to build a more methodical food safety system as it continues on its path to protect public health.

The 2012-2016 Strategic Plan for the Foods and Veterinary Medicine (FVM) Program outlines how the program will continue to increase its focus on risk-informed and science-based decision making.
Working Definition: Risk-Informed Decision Making System

• “a systematic means by which to facilitate decision making to reduce public health risk in light of limited resources and additional factors that may be considered.”

Enhancing Food Safety
(IOM/NRC 2010)
FVM’s Vision for an Improved Risk-Informed Food Safety System

- Develop Strategic Goals
- Set High-Level Priorities
- Formulate Budget
- Set Specific Risk-Informed Priorities
- Execute Activities – Resource allocations
- Measure Progress of Activities

Strategic Data Integration and Management

FVM= Food & Veterinary Medicine
Role of IFSAC

• Charting new and improved approaches to foodborne illness source attribution
  – methods development
  – building body of knowledge
  – update estimates, trending in the future
• Key input for Risk Informed Food Safety System
• Other beneficial activities:
  – IFSAC improved food categories more useful to FDA
  – support FDA efforts to measure effectiveness of interventions
• Collaboration & harmonization
• Transparency
FVM’s Vision for an Improved Risk-Informed Food Safety System

- **Develop Strategic Goals**
  - IFSAC project & HHS Priority Goal: SE eggs
- **Set High-Level Priorities**
  - IFSAC Attribution Estimates: 4 pathogens
- **Set Specific Risk-Informed Priorities**
  - IFSAC Attribution Estimates, methods applications, future IFSAC projects
- **Formulate Budget**
- **Strategic Data Integration and Management**
- **Execute Activities – Resource allocations**
- **Measure Progress of Activities**
- Drive new and improved data collection

- IFSAC trend analysis – 4 pathogens; FSMA
IFSAC Foodborne Illness Source Attribution Estimates

• Application in FVM program priority setting
  – Estimates are point of contamination neutral
  – FDA needs: more than the 4 IFSAC priority pathogens
  – Other data to complement estimates in order to evaluate public health risk
  – Other factors to consider in priority setting and resource allocation beyond public health data
FVM Attribution Applications and Prioritization

FVM Program
Strategic & Implementation Plans

FVM Program Research Policy Inspections Sampling Outreach, education Tech. assistance

Risk Informed Priorities

Activity Options

Resource Allocation

Performance Monitoring & Evaluation

Budget Formulation and Execution Continuum

Additional Scientific Data

Public Health Data (ATTRIBUTION)

Stakeholder Interests

Strategic Plan

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**FVM Application of Estimates**

**Example:** *E.coli* O157 and Leafy Greens

- Foodborne illness source attribution data
- Additional Scientific data
- Mandates: Produce Safety Rule

**Activity Options:** Assessment & Implementation

- Research
- Policy
- Inspections
- Sampling
- Outreach, education
- Technical assistance

- Fund soil amendment related research
- Soil amendments: Risk assessment
- FDA GAPs & other Guides
- Support Alliance, FDA technical assistance to industry
IFSAC Foodborne Illness Source Attribution Estimates

• Other Applications in FDA FVM
  – Support development of regulations
  – informs risk assessment (e.g. produce)
  – Identifies gaps for food contamination data

• Other factors to consider, such as feasibility, regulatory authority
Future Direction

• New projects, key to FDA
  – Ex. point of contamination; Campy/Dairy
• Continue transparency & increase collaboration with external stakeholders
• Explore application to FSMA implementation
• Support future IFSAC projects that contribute to achieving FDA’s vision for a risk-informed food safety system AND a tri-agency approach to improving foodborne illness source attribution