

**CDC's Emerging Infections Program**  
**CDC/USDA/FDA Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network**  
**Steering Committee Conference Call - MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday Thursday, July 8th, 2004  
Time: 2:00-3:00 pm EST  
Numbers: Number: 877-601-3546 PassCode: 14349

**Sites**

CA- Present	GA -MSA-Present	NM-Present
CO-Present	MD-Present	OR-Present
CT-Present	MN-Present	TN-Present
GA-GOA-Present	NY-Present	TX-Not present

**Agencies**

FDA/CFSAN - Present	CDC Parasitic-Present	UMN-Present
FDA/CVM – Not Present	CDC Outbreak-Not Present	USDA/FSIS-Present
CDC FoodNet-Present	CDC Viral-Not present	EHSNet - Present

A. Administrative

1. Status of manuscripts

- #21, Tim Jones MS accepted at CID, today
- CDC parasitic, please check on Michael Beach MS (water)
- #24 published this month in Journal of Food Protection
- Crypto caco has been published in JCM, congratulations to all authors (parasitic diseases)
- next month we'll attach published MS list

2. Calendar of calls

- On secure website there is a link for all standard WG calls
- Through Dec 2004 – all calls with time, date, phone number, passcode
- Reminders will be sent out
- Let CDC know if you want to be added to a WG

B. Surveillance

1. Active surveillance data, 2004

- *Salmonella* decreasing across all serotypes
  - Most remarkable declines in *S. Newport*, except for TN
  - *S. Javiana* increase – may be a delayed summer increase; as of these data (end of May) *S. Javiana* has not appeared
- *Shigella* also decreasing, particularly *S. sonnei*
- Appreciate recent improvements in timeliness of data transmission – allow for real time analysis of trends
- Always looking for suggestions for presentation of results

2. HUS surveillance

- 19 cases so far this year, 13 in catchment
- 1<sup>st</sup> death in TN; currently being followed up
- # cases same as previous years; no demonstrable decline yet

3. Performance standards

- 2003 and 2004 performance standards included in packet
- Of note – 2003
  - *Listeria* serotype – efforts being made here to improve this data and get into FoodNet database
  - Isolates with state lab id – compare 2003 to 2004 and you see an improvement as data is closed out
- Performance standards being reviewed and improved by coordinators
- Quite useful in terms of improving quality of our data
  - Important pieces of information to be added to renewals/responses to proposals
  - Demonstrate quantity and quality of work being done by FoodNet sites
  - Coordinators efforts to make performance standards useful very appreciated

4. Publication Guidelines

- Issues raised during recent abstracts/conferences – honorary authorship
- Currently each site is offered one authorship slot on each abstract/manuscript
- Look at revision of guidelines to better reflect work being done
- Open for discussion
  - Need to be revised?
  - Form a sub-group to revise guidelines
- Current guidelines drafted by previous subcommittee and adopted by steering committee after discussion and considerable attention
- FA (CDC) – fair to follow these rules; it may be expectation that is being broken – authors nominated by sites are supposed to be actively involved in the process of abstract
- Want to ensure active participation from those nominated

- PC (OR) – difficult if not impossible to have 10 or 11 authors that have meaningful contributions to a MS – perhaps acknowledge differently; would prefer core of 3 or 4 authors that do bulk of work and then offer up comments; would prefer that sites not feel like they needed to have an author on every paper and let core group do drafting
- RT (CDC) – changes in requirements from journals – contributions of all authors need to be detailed – general trend is for larger WG attributions at end of paper and fewer authors – something that is confronted as manuscripts are submitted – part of major trend overall – suggestion for greater freedom of sites to nominate authors or WG members to be tagged on to the end of the article
- FA (CDC) – issue revolves around declining – haven't specified reasons for declining – maybe sub-bullet with reason to decline is "not provide substantial input" – NEJM 1999 article defines substantial input – want to add more clarity to existing guidelines
- RT (CDC) – guidelines don't clarify that even the one author would reflect contributions as defined by NEJM, not just additional authors after the one author from each site
- FA (CDC) – want to keep feature of sites or CDC having freedom to decline – not having CDC assign author based on contribution level which can create ill will
- BK (OR) – don't want one single person making those decisions – 3 or 4 authors plus "FoodNet Working Group" which can be people who are on WG calls and provide comments
- FA (CDC) – one annual WG list – maybe have WG specific for each paper – listed in small print at end of article
- FA (CDC) - proposed to move to sub-committee to revise – state volunteers OR (Paul), CA (Duc), CDC (Drew)
- RT (CDC) – standing agreement between CDC and FDA to share after clearance here at CDC – occurs routinely – maybe worth explicitly stating? Can continually share MS with USDA as well
- FA (CDC) – can add explicit language re: requirement to inform regulatory partners

#### C. Special studies

1. S. Newport, S. Enteritidis, Infant case-control studies
  - S. Newport (Fred)
    - Rose Devasia (TN) – clinical consequences MS to Jay for comments
    - Jay Varma – risk factor MS
      - Data cleaning, reasons for non-enrollment
      - Analysis on track
  - SE (Ruthanne)
    - Meeting regularly
    - Doing univariate, exploring multivariate
  - Infant (Katie)
    - Enrollment wrapped up end of May
    - Data cleaning starting, next call in August to start analysis
2. *E. coli* O157 cohort study (Fred)
  - Status of protocol and questionnaire – in 2 weeks or so WG will provide input and finalized
  - Start clearance process in a couple weeks
3. Long-term care facility survey (Pat Ryan)
  - Protocol submitted to clearance, moving through
  - In parallel, questionnaire has been sent to Nursing Homes for input and feedback

#### D. Proposals

1. Revision: Analysis of trends in listeriosis in the FoodNet sites, 1996-2003 (Drew Voetsch)
  - This MS has been through many hands – Drew offering to complete
  - Follow up to 1995 JAMA paper
  - Want to look specifically at trends in disparities
  - ABCs paper is looking at meningitis subset of these data
  - *Listeria* WG members are welcome, contact Drew
  - Proposal accepted as submitted
2. The economic cost of *E. coli* O157:H7 infections (Paul Frenzen)
  - Updating earlier cost estimates
  - More problems with earlier updates than expected, has required more work, so going to write up
  - Want to include data from 2<sup>nd</sup> *E. coli* caco study, Pop survey, and *E. coli* surveillance data
  - FoodNet data used to classify cases into severity classifications, age distributions
  - RT (CDC) – sounds good – quite intrigued by website calculator – will it be done for other pathogens
  - PF (USDA) – *Salmonella* is up, *E. coli* is next to go up
  - PC (OR) - Value of statistical life? Over and above lost wages?
    - PF (USDA) - Estimate based on wage differentials for risky jobs, adjusted for age and death, treat as annuity paid over current life span – early death equals loss of annuity payments – theoretical economic definition of a price of a life based on the actual wages of risky jobs – estimated range of values
  - FA (CDC) – Paul to provide update on economic costs at next O157 conference call
  - BK (OR) – specific proposal? Permission to use unpublished data –
  - PF – yes - using unpublished surveillance data (Alison's proposal)
    - Linked O157 surveillance and HUS data
    - We can see differences in age groups – weren't considered in previous economic estimates
  - Proposal accepted as submitted
3. *E. coli* O157 and HUS infections, 1997-2002 (Alison Drake)

- Thanks to states for assistance in linking data
- Proposal to write up process and results in comparing surveillance and HUS data
- RT (CDC) – very happy to see FoodNet data used in this manner
- Proposal accepted as submitted
  - WG to be developed as proposal matures
- Progress on both projects will be disseminated through O157 WG
- A quantification of seasonality in the incidence of six selected foodborne pathogens (Andrew Billman)
  - DV (CDC) – proposal to look at seasonality
    - Use auto regression (SAS) to better describe the periodicity of enteric infections
    - Different from Yancy Bodenstein's work
    - Look for differences in seasonality by age and gender for all pathogens – better approach would be to focus to *Campylobacter* at a couple sites rather than all pathogens and all sites
  - This proposal, once revised, will be a request for data from one site
  - Wanted MD to be aware of proposal
  - Proposal will be referred to MD
  - Karen Cuenco (MD) – what are differences between Yancy's and Andy's?
  - DV (CDC) – Yancy includes weather information as predictors – Andy's proposal is only FN data and looking at age
  - Pat Ryan (MD) – Yancy's next step was to be demographic information
  - RT (CDC) – if focus is *Campylobacter*, maybe MD not an appropriate site, maybe need to expand to a site with more Campy
  - DV (CA) – sounds like groups need to talk to each other to coordinate approaches – all sites would allow for analysis of geographical issues – Yancy and Andy should coordinate and revise and resubmit for next month
  - PR (MD) – rationale for one pathogen, one site is really the amount of time of students in this program – want a manageable project within constraints of program
  - Andy will need to decide if all site (resubmit to Steering committee) or if one site (work only with that site)
  - DV (CA) – proposals with two or three site's data?
  - FA (CDC) – guidelines state that more than one sites worth of data has to be approved by group

#### E. Miscellaneous

1. University of Minnesota project
  - Working actively with UMN on several projects
  - Site visit in August to discuss projects
  - Providing consultation for multivariate analysis of SE
  - Working on attribution – blending sporadic and outbreak data
2. International FoodNet projects
  - Elaine Scallan in Slovenia today as consultant to WHO for burden of illness (*Salmonella*)
  - ICOFDN first call is July 22<sup>nd</sup> – follow up to half day meeting after ICEID
  - All states are welcome
3. EIP Steering Committee meeting
  - Held here in June
- Center for Post-Harvest food protection – multi million dollar grant (UMN)
  - Rapid testing methods for foods
  - Track food through processing and distribution

#### F. Upcoming FoodNet conference calls, meetings, and deadlines

1.	Thursday	July 8 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-1:00 pm EST	HUS/STEC Working Group call
2.	Thursday	July 8 <sup>th</sup>	1:00-2:00 pm EST	<i>Campylobacter</i> –Regional Differences
3.	Wednesday	July 14 <sup>th</sup>	4:00-5:00 pm EST	Burden Working Group call
4.	Thursday	July 15 <sup>th</sup>	1:00-2:00 pm EST	Antimicrobial Resistant Working Group call
5.	Thursday	July 15 <sup>th</sup>	3:00-4:00 pm EST	Outbreak Working Group call- <b>CANCELLED</b>
6.	Monday	July 19 <sup>th</sup>	3:00-4:00 pm EST	GBS Working Group call
7.	Thursday	July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8:00-9:00 am EST	Int'l Collaboration on Foodborne Disease call
8.	Tuesday	July 27 <sup>th</sup>	2:00-3:00 pm EST	Interventions Working Group call
9.	Thursday	July 29 <sup>th</sup>	2:00-3:00 pm EST	FoodNet Coordinators call
10.	Thursday	July 29 <sup>th</sup>	3:00-4:00 pm EST	Infant Illness Working Group call
11.	Wednesday	Aug. 4 <sup>th</sup>	11:00-12:00 pm EST	S. Kentucky Working Group call
12.	Wednesday	Aug. 4 <sup>th</sup>	3:30-4:40 pm EST	Validation of Multipliers Working Group call
13.	Thursday	Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	11:00-12:00 pm EST	Attribution Working Group call
14.	Monday	Aug. 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:00-3:00 pm EST	Infant case-control study
15.	Tuesday	Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>	2:00-4:00 pm EST	August Update meeting
16.	Thursday	Aug. 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:00-3:00 pm EST	August Steering Committee call

#### G. Data Submission Deadlines

1. Surveillance data transmission Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>
2. HUS data transmission Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>