

Minutes from October 2004 FoodNet Steering Committee Call

A) Administrative

1) EIP Conference Call Coordination – We will coordinate with ABCs and Respiratory to make sure there are no overlapping conference calls, also share our conference call schedule with these other programs.

2) Staff Changes

- Nicole Ishill (CDC) leaving
- Welcome Julie Smith (CDC) new webmaster

3) Manuscripts

- List of active manuscripts in reverse status order in the packet – if there are any updates or changes please contact Jennifer Nelson
- Also a list of published manuscripts that will soon be on our website
- Proposal to also have a list of state specific manuscripts for manuscripts that have at least a draft. If you have drafted a manuscript using FoodNet data please send the title and coauthor list to Jennifer Nelson.

4) Site visits

Visits to TX and NM in September (trip report in packet)

- Texas will begin piloting data transmission in 2005 and hopefully their data will be merged into FoodNet beginning 2006
- Especially exciting is the state to state collaboration between Texas and New Mexico in the El Paso metro area

University of Minnesota

- An update on this visit was given to the Attributions WG
- U of MN assisting with an external review of our case-control study methodology, especially selection biases and understanding how they contribute to point of consumption attribution.

5) EIP Applications

- Everyone should have received the program announcement
- Any questions can be directed to Jennifer Nelson
- Performance standards can be found on the secure website in the July Steering Committee Packet
- Appendix 2 has 2 categories: FoodNet activities that should be done and activities that are proposed to be done – any questions can be discussed further

B) Surveillance

- The 2003 annual report is waiting on final data from the US Census Bureau, and will be completed as soon as that data becomes available to us.
- This month's data packet will be posted by this afternoon

- New EIP/FTP site to transmit data for all EIP programs available soon. There will be a FoodNet folder and we may use the previous month's data as a pilot test before data transmission is moved over to this site. Any questions can be addressed to Elizabeth Ailes

C) Update on Case Control Studies

1) Listeria

- We have received the results of all outstanding serotyping and after the results are adjusted the manuscript will begin its journey through clearance
- There were 6 cases in MD that were outside the catchment area for that time period. However, if Maryland is confident that they ascertained all cases of *Listeria* statewide prior to FoodNet catchment becoming statewide then we do not need to exclude those cases.

2) Newport

- Jay Varma has drafted a manuscript and we are making enhancements on the analysis.
- Call with Jay next week to discuss these changes and then the final draft will be made available for comments.
- All PFGE results are not yet available but this will not hold up the analysis.

3) *S. Enteritidis*

- Finished with multivariate analysis and drafting tables.
- Ruthanne Marcus finalizing the draft manuscript and will circulate to coauthors in the upcoming weeks.
- MN has received all the PFGE data from this study.

4) Infant *Salmonella/Campylobacter*

- All data is in and going through cleaning and recoding, as well as a preliminary analysis
- Next call 10/18, perhaps will want to include U of MN for statistical and methodological support

5) *E. coli* O157 cohort

- Protocol moving through CDC clearance and hope to start state IRBs by the end of the month
- Want to launch in January 2005
- Need to know that all 10 sites intend to participate, otherwise the sample size calculations will need to be adjusted.

D) Update on Working Groups

1) HUS/O157

- TN gave results of retrospective look at adult and children HUS surveillance

- More discussion on how able we are to conduct adult HUS surveillance, and protocol on serum collection
- Discussion on Healthy People 2010 objectives (see p34 of packet)
- Eileen Dunne's manuscript submitted to JAMA

2) Interventions

- Results of cognitive juice survey looking at unpasteurized juice questions from last Pop'n. Survey.
- 20% of respondents said they would have changed their response to the unpasteurized juice question as a result of this survey - implications for clarity in how we ask the question in cycle 5 of Pop'n survey
- Nursing Home Survey – looking at information on deli meats, pasteurized eggs, irradiated meats in “high risk” populations such as the immunocompromised and elderly
- Protocol and survey going through state IRBs, hope to launch the study in the next few months
- Perhaps this will be a model for looking at other “high risk” settings
- Also looking at *Salmonella* and reptile exposures

3) Outbreak/Norovirus

- Looking at incubation periods of *Salmonella* from outbreak data (Oregon leading on this)
- Will ask FN sites to collect data prospectively and retrospectively to answer these questions
- Meeting in May 2005 in Seattle of Foodborne epidemiologists – think of any agenda items to include
- Looking at EFORS data for completeness and usefulness of contributing factors (only 20% of Outbreaks have any contributing factors data)
- Currently, all FN sites are asked to submit 3 isolated from every *Salmonella* outbreak for resistance testing. Should this number be decreased?
- The Viral group is looking at the difference between foodborne and non-foodborne outbreaks

4) Coordinators

- Revise performance standards and add new ones such as the travel and outbreak variables
- Address surveillance issues such as the standardization of reporting across sites to improve data quality
- Surveillance Manual – revised annually as issues arise and modifications need to be made. (e.g. – changes in adult HUS surveillance will be reflected in the 2005 manual)

6) Attribution

- Minutes on p.49 of packet

- Update on U of MN site visit and Carrie Rigdon's point of processing attribution of *Salmonella* – draft by Spring 2005
- George Maldonado's project that will “blend” sporadic and outbreak data to do attribution
- Good progress made on collecting data on travel
- S. Kentucky subgroup has a summary – comments from FSIS are back and will be discussed on the next call
- Carrie and Elaine will visit Denmark to learn firsthand how the Danish Attribution Model was created and used

7) International Collaboration – a forum to discuss Burden studies

- Next quarterly call on 10/28
- If you wish to be added to the Listserv please contact Elaine Scallan
- A website will be created and hosted by WHO

8) Burden

- Tim Jones drafting a paper comparing the prevalence of diarrheal illness, stool culture submission, and care seeking practices across the 4 cycles of the population survey
- Alicia Cronquist drafting a manuscript discussing factors predictive of healthcare utilization
- Elaine in outlining stages of a manuscript describing the burden of bacterial pathogens
- This group will lead the development of the next cycle of the Population Survey – no time table available yet

E) Proposal on p. 45 of packet

- 1) Look at EFORS data from FoodNet sites to determine the value of the contributing factors
 - will look at the source and quality of the data

No objections were raised – proposal accepted as submitted

F) Corrections and Additions

1) The following conference calls have been cancelled:

- Thursday 10/21 – Outbreak Working Group call
- Wednesday 11/3 – Validation WG call
- Wednesday 11/10 – Burden Working Group call

2) Next months' Steering Committee call will take place on Thursday November 4th from 3 PM to 4PM EST b/c 11/11 is a holiday and 11/4 @2 is an EHS-Net call

3) NARMS retail meat annual report is now available online:

(http://www.fda.gov/cvm/index/narms/narms_pg.html)