

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

Date: Thursday, August 10th, 2006
Time: 2:00-3:00 ET
Attendance: CA, CO, CT, GA, MD, MN, NY, OR, TN, FSIS, FDA-CFSAN, CDC-Parasitic

A. Administrative

1. Welcome new EISOs: Casey Barton, Umid Sharapov
2. Status of manuscripts
 - a. Health Care Utilization Among Persons Who Have Recently Experienced Gastrointestinal Illness (Scallan) – Submitted to Foodborne Pathogens and Disease
 - b. *Listeria Monocytogenes* Infection From Food in the Regulatory Era: A Case Control Study of Risk Factors for Sporadic Illness in the United States (Varma) – Accepted to CID
 - c. FoodNet: Overview of a Decade of Achievement (Jones) – CDC Clearance
3. Revised FoodNet Organizational chart – Included in call materials
4. FoodNet: Who Does What? – A list of FoodNet staff and their major responsibilities was included in the call materials.

B. Working Groups and Special Studies

1. Trends Working Group
 - a. The group has discussed additional analyses to include in the MMWR, such as seasonality, age specific rates and geographic distribution.
 - b. The group has discussed use of the modeled rates for setting future objectives (ie. Healthy people 2020 objectives)
 - c. Trends WG will continue to meet quarterly.
2. MDR *Salmonella* Working Group
 - a. A revised study database has been distributed.
 - b. The enrollment tracking database for this study has been posted to the FTP site.
3. Special Studies Database Working Group
 - a. The working group is developing enrollment and isolate tracking databases for each FoodNet Special Study.
4. *Brucella* surveillance
 - a. The group, which will be led by Ezra Barzilay, will meet monthly to discuss activities associated with implementing *Brucella* surveillance.
5. FoodNet JAD sessions
 - a. Meetings to discuss FoodNet IT issues have been taking place at CDC.
 - b. Proposed changes will be discussed at the mid-year coordinators meeting.

C. Surveillance

1. Active data
 - a. Maryland data has been removed from the report.
 - b. Decreases were observed in *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, all, STEC O157, *Vibrio*, *Yersenia*, and *Cyclospora*.
 - c. Increases were observed in *Listeria*, *Shigella*, all, STEC non-O157, and *Cryptosporidium*.
2. *C. difficile* data
 - a. 94 cases have been identified as meeting the study definition for presumed community-acquired *C. difficile*; to date, 9 are culture positive.
3. Outbreak data
 - a. 126 outbreaks with more than two ill have been reported. 69% have a known etiology; 18% have a known vehicle; and 64% were restaurant associated.
 - b. 46 outbreaks with more than 10 ill have been reported. 65% have a known etiology; 22% have a known vehicle; and 63% were restaurant associated.
4. HUS data
 - a. There are 47 total cases with 30 in catchment.
 - b. The table showing the results of microbiologic testing has been revised.
 - c. Stool specimens were obtained from 70% of the patients.
 - d. 82% of the specimens obtained were cultured for *E. coli* O157, and *E. coli* O157 was isolated from 50% of those cultured.
 - e. 45% of the specimens obtained were tested for Shiga toxin, and 67% of those tested positive.
 - f. STEC non-O157 was isolated from 27% of the specimens tested for Shiga toxin.
 - g. 38% of serum collected was tested.

D. Upcoming FoodNet conference calls, meetings, and deadlines

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|--------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1. Thursday | August 17 th | 1:00-2:00 | Antimicrobial Resistance Working Group |
| 2. Thursday | August 17 th | 3:00-4:00 | Outbreak Working Group |
| 3. Tuesday | August 22 nd | 2:00-3:00 | Interventions Working Group |
| 4. Tuesday | August 22 nd | 4:00-5:00 | Risky Foods Working Group |
| 5. Wednesday | August 23 rd | 1:00-2:00 | <i>Campylobacter</i> Lab Survey Working Group |
| 6. Thursday | August 24 th | 2:00-3:00 | FoodNet Coordinators |
| 7. Wednesday | August 30 th | 3:00-4:00 | <i>Shigella</i> Analytical Working Group |
| 8. Thursday | September 7 th | 11:00-12:00 | Attributions WG |
| 9. Thursday | September 14 th | 12:00-1:00 | HUS/STEC Working Group |
| 10. Thursday | September 14 th | 2:00-3:00 | FoodNet Steering Committee |

E. Data Submission Deadlines

1. Surveillance data transmission Friday, August 25th
2. HUS data transmission Wednesday, August 30th