CDC’s Emerging Infections Program  
CDC/USDA/FDA Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network  
FoodNet Steering Committee Conference Call  
MINUTES

Date: Thursday, February 14, 2008 (2:00-3:00pm)  
Attendance: CA, CO, CT, GA, MD, MN, NM, NY, OR, TN, FSIS, FDA, Other CDC: Parasitic Branch

A. Administrative  
1. The 2008 Vision Meeting will be held March 6-7th, 2008 in Denver, Colorado.  
   a. Please let Alicia Cronquist know if you have a preference about the table set-up for the meeting or if you have 
      any other questions about the meeting.  
   b. A short survey has been sent out via email to all PIs and Coordinators in order to obtain feedback so that the 
      time allocated for discussion at the PI meeting on March 5th can be used as effectively as possible. Other 
      FoodNet Team members are also welcome to complete the survey.  
      A. Please respond to the survey by Friday, February 22nd.

2. Update on manuscripts  
   a. Manuscript #22, “Clinical response and outcome of infection with Salmonella Typhi with decreased 
      susceptibility to fluoroquinolones: a United States FoodNet multi-center retrospective study,” by John Crump et 
      al. was accepted to Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy.  
   b. Manuscript #680, “Reactive arthritis following culture-confirmed infections with bacterial enteric pathogens in 
      Minnesota and Oregon: a population-based study,” by John Townes et al. will be published as an extended 
      report in Online First by Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases.  
      Elizabeth Ailes et al. was submitted to Foodborne Pathogens and Disease.

B. 2007 Trends (FoodNet MMWR)  
1. Trends in 2007 FoodNet data were discussed.  
   a. A significant decline was observed in Campylobacter, Listeria, Salmonella, Shigella, STEC O157, and Yersinia; 
      however, most of this decline occurred prior to 2005.  
   b. There has been no change observed in Vibrio or Cryptosporidium.  
   c. It was noted that more efforts are needed in order to achieve the Healthy People 2010 national objectives.

C. Working Groups and Special Studies  
1. Campylobacter  
   a. Hannah Gould will be taking the lead on the Campylobacter Broiler Study.  
      A. The study will be similar to the pilot study conducted in CA and TN.  
      B. Each participating site will obtain ten whole broiler chickens, perform a rinsate and send the rinsate to 
         a FSIS laboratory for prevalence testing and quantification of Campylobacter.  
   B. The protocol will be sent out for review prior to the Vision Meeting.

2. C. difficile  
   a. FoodNet and DHQP will work on and EIP-wide C. difficile project.  
   b. The C. difficile working group reconvened and reviewed and revised the objectives of the study.  
   c. This project will be discussed at the Vision Meeting and Ruthanne Marcus and Sharon Hurd will give a brief 
      presentation on the pilot study that will be conducted in NY and CT.

3. STEC/HUS  
   a. The E. coli cohort study database has been re-distributed to the sites.  
      A. Unfortunately, some sites are still having problems entering in their data.  
      B. If any other sites are having problems with the database, please let Hannah Gould (lgould@cdc.gov) or 
         Liane Ong (long@cdc.gov) know.

4. Interventions  
   a. FoodNet News  
      A. The second issue of the FoodNet News (featuring STEC) has been distributed and posted to the website.  
      B. The spring issue of the newsletter will highlight the MMWR and include updates from FDA and FSIS about 
         their initiatives for the coming year.  
   b. The working group is planning to develop and launch a Facts and Figures webpage in order to make FoodNet 
      data more accessible to the public.
5. Selected *Salmonella* Serotypes
   a. The study has been completed.
      A. Ten sites began the study on January 1st, 2007 and all ended on time.
      B. There will be a call at the end of February to discuss the database and any administrative issues.
      C. The first analytical working group will meet on March 12th to discuss plans for analysis.

D. Proposals for manuscripts
   1. Risky food behaviors of pregnant women (D. Hoefer)
      a. This aim of this proposal is to compare the food consumption behaviors of pregnant women with those of non-pregnant women using data from the Population Survey.
      b. Please let Dina Hoefer (dxh13@health.state.ny.us) if you are interested in participating in this analysis.
      c. This proposal was approved.

E. Special study tables were included in the packet but were not discussed.

F. Surveillance data was included in the packet but was not discussed.

G. Upcoming FoodNet conference calls, meetings, and deadlines
   1. Thursday, February 21st    STEC Diagnostics working group    2:00-3:00pm
   2. Thursday, February 21st    Trends working group call    3:00-4:00pm
   3. Wednesday, February 27th   Selected *Salmonella* Serotypes study working group    3:00-4:00pm
   4. Thursday, February 28th    FoodNet Coordinators conference call    2:00-3:00pm

   5. Wednesday, March 5th       FoodNet PI Meeting (Denver, Colorado)
   6. Wednesday, March 5th       FoodNet Coordinators Meeting (Denver, Colorado)
   7. March 6-7th, 2008          Vision Meeting (Denver, Colorado)

   8. Friday, March 21st         FoodNet data transmission deadline
   9. Wednesday, March 26th      STEC/HUS data transmission deadline