

Physical Hazards and Foreign Material PDG

Attendees: Byron Chaves (Chair), Shahram Ajamian, Adam Bolain, Nicolette Brown, Fariha Chowdhury, Polly Courtney, Minh Duong, Amanda Fischer, Megan Jensen, Amanda Martin Jones, Kent Juliot, Fumiko Kasuga, Paula Klassen, Janet Rowat Kraiss, Yvonne Masters, Shpresa Musa, Sarah Smith-Simpson, Ana Souza, Gry Terrell.

Board/Staff Present: Manpreet Singh.

Total Number of Attendees: 20.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, 1:02 p.m. Eastern Time, July 16, 2023.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Polly Courtney.

Old Business: Minutes from the PDG virtual meeting (June 23, 2023) were discussed. This included a summary of the PDG purpose, goals for the 2023-2024 year, collaborations with other PDG, and previous activities related to Physical Hazards and Foreign Material such as the webinar “Managing Foreign Materials and Physical hazards Risk to Make Recalls More (Not Less) Foreign (Mar 16, 2023).”

Different webinar and meeting session ideas were discussed in the virtual meeting, including AI applications for FM detection and management; design safety analysis – how to; developing a food safety culture around PH&FM; equipment design and preventive maintenance; regulatory compliance and implications of PH&FM adulteration; and risk assessment of foreign materials – safety vs. quality issues; analytical tools to quantify risk.

New Business: Support was expressed for “AI applications for FM detection and management.” A lot of work is being done on AI technology vs. traditional algorithms. It was suggested that there may be an opportunity to work with the Data Analysis PDG on an activity. There was interest in the “Design Safety Analysis – How to!” topic. After some discussion, it was suggested that several of the ideas could potentially be combined in a broader topic around “Defensibility of your Food” from a PH&FM standpoint. There is agreement that the FDA compliance guidance is outdated. It would be good to represent other regulatory perspectives if possible.

New ideas: A topic for a potential general awareness webinar was suggested: “Not all foreign materials are hazardous and not all physical hazards are foreign.” A white paper series on Best Practices/Worst Practices was suggested.

A virtual PDG meeting will be held in late August/early September to discuss session proposals for IAFP 2024 due on October 3, 2023.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Recommend appointing Byron Chaves as the Chair and Gale Beard as the Vice-Chair.

Next Meeting Date: July 14, 2024, Long Beach, California.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

Chairperson Name: Byron Chaves.