

Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG

Names of Attendees: Alexandre Da Silva (Chair), Julie Jean (Vice Chair), Hamada Aboubakr, Alberto Aguayo-Acosta, Brienna Anderson Coughlin, James Arbogast, William Burkhardt Iii, Kellie Burris, Franck Chatigny, Shani Craighead, Michelle Danyluk, Kaiping Deng, Lise Duran, Mauricio Durigan, Abdul Azeez Ebrahim, Blanca Escudero, Laura Ewing, Xuetong Fan, Amanda Flathers, Bob Forner, Eduardo Franco Frias, Ted Gatesy, Rebecca Goulter, Sagar Goyal, Stephen Grove, Jim Heemstra, Sunee Himathongkham, Kirsten Hirneisen, Jessica Hofstetter, Brynn Husk, Timothy Jackson, Laurent Jain, David Kingsley, Alison Lacombe, Pongpan Laksanalamai, Pushpinder Litt, Chip Manuel, Jose Merino Mascorro, Naim Montazeri, Neda Nasheri, Angela Nguyen, Joseph Nicholl, Ikechukwu Oguadinma, Isha Patel, Ankit Patras, Emma Patregnani, Audrey Patterson, Anne-Marie Perchec - Merien, Claudette Quevedo, Beatriz Quiñones, Sarita Raengradub Wheeler, Rachel Rodriguez, Adrienne Shearer, Marianne Solomotis, Brad Taylor, Gretchen Wall, and Jacqueline Woods.

Number of Attendees: 57.

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 a.m., Sunday, July 21, 2019

Minutes Recording Secretary: Julie Jean.

The meeting was called to order by Alex da Silva (Chair). Alex introduced himself and announced Julie Jean as the newly elected PDG Vice Chair who introduced herself. All attendees were invited to introduce themselves and after that Alex gave an overview of the agenda.

Old Business:

- Minutes from IAFP 2018 were approved with no modifications.
- Alex reviewed the 3 accepted sponsored or co-sponsored proposals (RT4: *Cyclospora*: It's not just imports' issue; S48: Determining preventive controls for viruses and parasites; S54: Agricultural water and emerging pathogens in the age of FSMA: do we need to worry?) and overall presentations/posters related to virus/ parasites from this year's program.

New Business:

Two (2) presentations are at the agenda:

1. According to the recent advances and media attention, Alex da Silva presented an overview entitled: The update on *Cyclospora cayetanensis* and cyclosporiasis: science and public health.
2. Ikechukwu Oguadinma, IAFP Student liaison presented the mentorship program and its importance for student career and IAFP recruitment of students. Everyone is invited to the Student Mixer on Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. for better interaction between professional and students. Several PDG roundtables and symposia are sponsored or co-sponsored and our PDG were invited to consider this opportunity. Student mentorship program facilitate communication between student and professional.

In preparation for IAFP 2020 in Cleveland, Ohio, August 2–5, 2020, roundtable and symposia topics were suggested and discussed:

- Frozen berries: David Kingsley mentioned the latest recalls of berries. Neda Nasheri mentioned the frozen state of the berries on recall. Discussions were also on the origin of the berries subjected to those recall. Students from Kali Kniels' lab have mentioned studies that are conducted in their lab about persistence of viruses in frozen berries. On farm control has already been covered by past symposium. However, importance of water in the transmission was mentioned.
- Exotic parasites or viruses: *Angiostrongylus* cases from Hawaii (Alex da Silva) and vegetable viruses as indicators (David Kingsley) were discussed as a possible symposium proposal combining viruses and parasites. Neda Nasheri mentioned the lack of information on the prevalence of hepatitis E virus.
- Control methods: According to the control methods symposia that are presented this year. (Jessica Hofstetter) expressed the value of that kind of information for food industry to assure choice of safe ingredients. However, major gaps in those mitigation methods are discussed toward virus and parasites. Validations of post-harvest methods are lacking and are discussed. Stephen Grove suggested assisting to the processing symposium on Tuesday to bring more ideas.
- Sensitive population: David Kingsley is asking about chronic giardiasis to induce food allergies such as gluten and lactose sensitive individuals. Some discussion of dead parasites such as *Pseudoterranova* antigens inducing allergies. The discussions lead to interesting ideas that could also turn into symposium proposals.
- Molecular epidemiology: Symposium on methods was suggested. Progress on molecular epidemiology for both viruses and parasites are mentioned. Publications on MLST and other ways to genotype *Cyclospora* were discussed; significant advancements were made in this area and these tools are now being used to figure out some of the cyclosporiasis outbreaks patterns. Aron Hall from CDC was suggested as a speaker to cover the application of newly developed molecular epidemiology methods for viruses.
- Seafood: Organization of co-sponsored symposium with the seafood PDGs was also suggested. There are some data in the literature that fish from U.S. coastal areas could be contaminated with *Diphyllobothrium* sp. In fact, some of the U.S. recent cases were reported on mainstream media.
- Emerging technology: Control of viruses was discussed based on the use of emerging technologies. Different aspects of those were presented and individuals from industry provided some perspectives such as: feasibility of these technologies to be implemented by industry, economic viability, safety of the technique, energy consumption,

regulatory issues and cost. Example about cold plasma was mentioned by Hamada A. Aboubakr.

- Hepatitis A virus: Stephen Grove mentioned the recent cases of HAV and the recent vaccination of children. The concept of diseases that re-emerge was discussed as well as the topics such as vaccination of food handlers.

Interest was expressed in validation of intervention technologies and available and emerging technology for kills steps (cost, reliability, transfer to industry; roadblocks for approval).

Interest was expressed in knowledge gaps; research- able science topics for viruses and parasites.

Some discussion about Hepatitis E and possible other emerging viruses/parasites due to some indicators about incidence of this virus.

Deadline for symposia, roundtable and workshop proposals is October 1, 2019.

Alex da Silva continued by presenting ways to enhance communication and knowledge transfer through the year:

- International perspectives on various issues.
- Interactive workshops, before the annual meeting or at other times throughout the year.
- Creating a webinar, or a webinar series.
- Development of booklets or pamphlets.
- Drafting of white papers.
- Regular web meetings.
- Communicating regularly via email or teleconfer- ence.

It was highlighted that webinars no longer need spon- sorship. The IAFP foundation will support the expense and that will significantly streamline the ability of PDGs to organize those sessions.

It is stressed that webinars should be a good mean for knowledge transfer.

Numbered List of Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Approve Julie Jean as Vice Chair.

Next Meeting Date: August 2–5, 2020, Cleveland, Ohio.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Alexandre J. da Silva.

