Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG


Board/Staff Members Present: Lee-Ann Jaykus and Don Zink.

New Members: Leen Baert, Christophe Dufour, Qing Wang, Kyle LeStrange, Dan Li, John Scott Meschke, Sarita Raengpradub, Erwin Duizer, Nathan Bauer and Christina Megalis.

Meeting Called to Order: 9:05 a.m., Sunday, July 31, 2011.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Kathrine Robnett.

Old Business:

- Approval of last year’s minutes.
- Response to recommendations.
- Announced this year’s symposium and roundtable.

New Business:

- Elect Vice Chairperson – Stephen Grove was elected.

Planning for 2012 meeting – symposium, roundtable, Webinars:

  i. Convenors: Gary Richards, United States Department of Agriculture, USA and Nigel Cook, Food and Environment Research Agency, UK. *Suggested Viral and Parasite PDG Symposium for 2012, Control of Virus and Parasite Contamination for Food Supply Chains*, we will work with the Seafood PDG on this symposium.
  
  ii. Transfers and Risk of Transfer of Viruses in the Food Service Setting (Ecolab, EcoSure – Findings and Results).
  
  iii. Toxoplasma: Detection and Risks Associated with Other Diseases and Latent Infection – Prevalence, Methods, Serology, Detection in Meat and Poultry, and Burden of Foodborne Illness, Collaborate with Methods PDG and Meat and Poultry PDG.
  
  iv. Update session on regulatory perception on parasites and viruses (Codex, European Regulatory perspective?) – Risk Assessments and factors (Possible roundtable discussion or Webinar).
  
  v. Emerging viruses – Impacts on international trade due to the rising popularity of exports and imports from other countries; what guidelines and regulations are available if any; foods that have been considered safe now becoming implicated (dried processed foods: dates, sun dried tomatoes); rising threats of emerging parasites and viruses; dry sausages and non dry sausages, hunting wild boar – Threat of Hepatitis E in populations that hunt and consume meat.
  
  vi. Collaborate with Water Quality and Safety – Parasites, returning military personnel – Presence of parasites and viruses (acquired from water sources used overseas).
  
  vii. Case studies related to viruses outbreaks, short symposium half hour talk with 15 minute discussion, two separate case studies.
  
  viii. Roundtable, alternative technologies for validation viii. of processes for viral contamination.
  
  ix. Possible Webinars: Regulatory updates – Presented when updates are available; one Webinar for those outside of the PDG.
x. **Verification of food processes – Issues, detection methods, seeking a streamlined way to verify safety and sanitation practices. Modernization act how will validate viruses be carried out.**

- How the PDG can be more active during the approaching year
  - Write a book: Textbook for college students; viruses.
  - Paper with cooperation from industry sponsors.
  - Reference collections online with a web page
  - Viruses and parasites – PCR and other detection methods.
  - Increase outreach and extension activities – Specific audiences or groups
  - Webinars – Sanitation, hygiene related to viruses.
  - Online documentations – Update on PDG section within IAFP site – Email when updates are posted to allow for feedback.
  - Infuse more information about parasites for IAFP meeting – webinars, emails, outreach, extension – convince more experts in parasites to attend.
  - Work with European colleges – more involvement.
  - Employee hygiene and safety – parasites and emerging ones develop hand-outs.

**Recommendations to the Executive Board**

1. Facilitate better development of symposia that crossover with other PDGs such as forming a meeting for the various PDGs to get together for collaboration. With sufficient time to work together and develop webinars and symposia.
2. Information regarding content for PDGs – Area to post agendas for meetings (What topics are being covered).
3. Approve election of Stephen Grove as new Vice Chairperson.

**Next Meeting Date:** Conference call will be held within a month.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:00 a.m.

**Chairperson:** Marlene Janes.