

Partnership for Food Protection Workgroup Activities - Update #3

The four state and local-led Partnership for Food Protection (PFP) Workgroups (WGs) - Training, Response, Risk-based Workplanning and Interactive Information Technology and the FDA/Center for Veterinary Medicine-led (CVM) PETNet project - continued work on the projects they plan to complete by August 2010. A highlight of this report is that all of the WGs were able to meet at a successful face-to-face meeting in Fort Worth, Texas in November. The following is a summary update of progress from each WG.

RESPONSE WORKGROUP

General Workgroup Updates and changes in Representation

Jim Dale replaced Pat Beckenhaupt as the NACCHO member representative on the workgroup after Pat accepted a position at CDC; Pat Kennelly replaced Jeff Farrar on the workgroup after Jeff took a position within FDA; and Nausheen Saeed replaced Subha Chandar as the NACCHO staff representative on the workgroup.

Updates and Progress from Subgroup leaders

State and local details to FDA/EOC – Ellen Morrison. This project is focused on inviting State and Local representatives for a two to three week detail at the FDA’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Update: Have not received any volunteers to date; E. Morrison revised the announcement and add the location of the EOC and revised copy was shared with the group and posted to FoodSHIELD; Clarified that locals interested in applying are able to do so, provided they are willing to be commissioned; P. Salsbury will provide additional information on how locals can be commissioned for the details.

Recall effectiveness with 6 states – Wendy Campbell (No update provided)

Sprout environmental method document – Pat Kennelly. Many groups are focusing on the creation of an environmental investigation guideline document focusing on sprout production. The efforts of Rapid Response Team member states and the Response Workgroup have been combined to create a single document.

Update: Coordinated effort among Rapid Response states; Draft document is circulating and B. Miller will post to FoodSHIELD.

Collecting existing ICS documents, lessons learned, best practices – Scott Holmes & Tressa Madden - This project is looking at existing ICS documents and best practices currently used as the state and local health and ag agency levels.

WG Update: Have several ICS documents available; Main goal is to get ICS on the agenda for the August 2010 50-State meeting & discuss the use of ICS with

epidemiological response; S. Holmes will post documents to FoodSHIELD & CIFOR; Sub-group will work with 50-State meeting group to get on meeting agenda.

FDA update: Completed week-long position specific training for incident management teams in the 5 FDA regions; Creating ICS 100 course on-line that will be FDA-centric; Looking at multi-agency coordinating systems; Working on drafting Annex to Emergency Operations Plan for foodborne outbreaks and would be interested in comments from this group to move forward.

New pilot program for 3rd party recall – Pat Kennelly (No update provided)

Product tracing to support epi – Kirk Smith

Update: Paper is in draft form and has been shared with a few folks for comments; should be ready for distribution to the subgroup by the end of January; Paper outlines criteria for when appropriate to conduct epi investigation and include several case studies.

AFDO and Food Safety Summit (FSS) Presentations

Roberta Hammond – planning to be on panel at FSS - Paperwork still going through authorization, but should be able to confirm shortly (Ellen Morrison as possible back-up)

Ben Miller – will be on panel at AFDO Conference

RISK-BASED WORKPLANNING WORKGROUP (RWPW)

The WG has expanded membership to include the cooperators in states and FDA District offices that will be part of the pilot project. The following is a summary of progress on the project.

In November:

The WG sent a letter to state cooperators explaining the pilot project and giving instructions to the states asking that they conduct inspections as they would do normally in cooperation with their local, state, and federal partners.

WG called 4-5 of the state cooperators before the Ft. Worth meeting to answer questions about the pilot.

State cooperators' questions will be used to develop Q&As to be housed on FoodSHIELD; WG posted the *Summary of Responses from Cooperators* summarizing the results of the Questionnaire and the *Matrix of Cooperators Jurisdictions and Forms* identifying jurisdictions in the farm to fork continuum.

In December:

Vance Bybee sent a state cooperator letter out with some basic pilot project information and with an invitation to participate in a conference call on December 8, 2009.

As of December 1, 2009, all WG members signed up to use FoodSHIELD; additionally, six of the state cooperators are also on FoodSHIELD; Each state is assigned a WG

representative (who is either from the state or who has a well-established working relationship with the state) to serve as a liaison between the WG and the state to serve as an all-around resource.

Generally, the criteria with which the state are to perform their inspections are that they do what they usually do – this is important in order to accurately capture state processes and procedures as they currently exists.

WG to follow up again with GA, and NC regarding the feed component identified in the pilot; December 8, 2009 WG led a conference call with all state cooperators to discuss the pilot project in detail, to give instructions to state cooperators, and to field questions.

The deadline for evaluating the states' inspection and sampling tools has been delayed from mid-October to January 29, 2010.

Kara Morgan volunteered to take the lead to ensure that the Risk Team accomplishes this assignment; Kara Morgan and Dennis Baker will ensure that FDA cooperators contact their state counterparts to coordinate respective inventories and all other activities associated with the pilot project

In January:

The FAQ document for state cooperators was prepared and is located on FoodSHIELD.

The Logistics team requested that the participants at the spring meeting include the Logistics team, and the primary lead from each state.

As of January 5, 2010, no state inspections had been uploaded; Logistic Team's State Cooperator Liaisons are to check in with cooperators to find out where they are (progress on pilot assignment) and to see what questions they have, and whether they require assistance uploading reports.

WG working with the IT Work Group, specifically assisting with IT's "Cooperator Survey"; Team members have discovered that FoodSHIELD accounts expire without prior notice; and Laurie Lemaster with Tennessee posted inspection data to FoodSHEILD.

TRAINING WORKGROUP

The WG reported the following update: The WG sent out a Request for Information related to the Job-Task-Analysis (JTA), Subject Matter Experts (SME's) and Curricula in December seeking input from various stakeholders. To date, have received little feedback.

Working with International Food Protection Training institute (IFPTI) to conduct back mapping of various curricula and may need to get Chairs, Bucket Chairs and select FDA staff to IFPTI in Battle Creek to assist.

Will begin work and bring WG members in on “FDA Food Training and Certification Draft” Plan. (Received updated version from Pat Alcock in FDA’s Division of Human Resources Development).

Dave Read will present a WG progress report at AFDO’s Annual Conference in June and Brian Collins will present at the Food Safety Summit in April in Washington, DC.

The FDA request for contract help is delayed through April which stalls the Job Task Analysis portion of our work. We were hopeful it would be filled in January.

INTERACTIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) WORKGROUP

Work Group Goal: An integrated/interoperable food information system that links information such as laboratory, inspection and recall data.

System Assessment Team (Carrie Rigdon) – Deliver a systems assessment matrix
Split up and reviewing 7 systems; information due first week of February; some reviews are currently done and there is a meeting next week. The review process seems to be on schedule. Will review results in spring meeting in March. Preliminary results on excel will be available soon.

Business Needs Team (Kata Rittenburg) – Deliver preliminary IT needs assessment statement

Workplanning workgroup (WPG) is concerned about assisting on this project due to possible burden a survey may put on cooperators. Draft questions are now complete and under review/finalization. WPG would like to approve questions and to distribute the survey rather than have the IIT WG contact the state cooperators. Need to resolve this.

Rapid Response Team Cooperative Agreement grants groups (9 states agriculture and health agencies) might be a good group to handle the team survey. Business team will introduce idea to them in their monthly calls. Alternative survey target is the national Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO). Group will discuss this situation in this week’s conference call.

Recommendation is we continue to work with WPG and show them the questionnaire but work on finding a parallel survey target group in order to maintain our group’s direction and data needs. It seems like the business group may have to do their own survey with their own sample from the rapid response cooperative agreement states.

Mark Gregory retired and will no longer participate in team activities. Pete Salsbury and Kata are working on finding a new FDA replacement.

Data Elements Team (Shari Anderson) – Deliver enhancements to data elements reported to FDA for inspections

Recall effectiveness web-based form mockup has been distributed for finalization. Revisions are due back from team members on Jan 20th and with delivery to the FDA on

22nd for inclusion in their contracted activities. This deliverable should end the forms review activities for the group. The form will reduce free-form inputs in order to enhance data analysis. Team may be involved in form testing.

A model inspection form will be delivered by the team later this month. This activity is also on schedule.

Spring Meeting (planning to meet the week of March 8th/location not established).

PETNET PROJECT

The following progress was reported: As PETNet will be housed in FoodSHIELD, all the PETNet project group members are now signed on to FoodSHIELD. FoodSHIELD will be used by the group to continue their work on PETNet. Using FoodSHIELD will allow group members to familiarize themselves with FoodSHIELD and all the tools available.

CVM technical staff has developed the prototype Adobe PDF form that will collect information on adverse events associated with pet food products from states, territories, tribal nations and foreign countries. This prototype form collects data for the data fields developed at the Fort Worth meeting. The prototype form allows for the collected data to be converted into other formats such as Xcel and an html schema for easier analysis.

Subgroups are working on the prototype form to refine the minimum data elements that should be included in the final production form and developing instructions for PETNet users. Regulatory counsel has initiated the process for OMB clearance of the final production form.

Regulatory counsel at CVM continues to discuss the legal and regulatory issues related to PETNet.

CVM PETNet members are trying to secure funding to pay for FoodSHIELD contractors to develop applications in FoodSHIELD that may be unique to PETNet.

Project update FYI

The IIT WG, Workplanning Logistics Team and the PETNet project members requested a face-to-face meeting be scheduled in March to work on their projects. Some issues have been raised regarding the use of FDA funds for state and local employees to travel and work on these projects. Until these issues are resolved we will not be able to arrange this meeting.

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