Performance Measurement for Food Safety at FDA

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Outline

• Public Health Outcome Measures and their relationship to Performance Measures
• Current FDA Performance Measures
• Next steps: Connecting performance measures and outcomes
  – How information from this public meeting will be used
Public Health Outcomes for Food Safety – Examples

- Incidence of priority foodborne illnesses (cases, hospitalizations, deaths)
- Number of outbreaks and outbreak-associated cases by foodborne hazard and food type
- Number of severe illnesses from food allergies
Question: How can Regulatory Agencies Impact Public Health Outcomes?

- Food Safety System is complex and has many players
- Regulatory oversight is shared among federal, state and local agencies
- Public health outcome measures can address the question – Is food safety improving?
- To answer the question: “What is working in regulatory agencies to improve food safety?” - we need performance measures for regulatory agencies.
Why is Performance Measurement so important?

• Definitions:
  – Specific indicators used to evaluate how well a person, organization, or a system is operating
  – Ways to objectively measure the degree of success a program has had in achieving its stated objectives, goals, and planned program activities
  – Indicators of progress toward meeting prescribed objectives
  – Factors which help define root causes and appropriate corrective actions as well as enable shifting of knowledge and resources
Basic Principles for Good Performance Measures

- The measure focuses on results that matter
  - Where outcomes are measured, there are clear and strong relationships to activities and outputs
  - Where outputs are measured, there are clear and strong relationships to higher-level goals and public health outcomes

- The measure provides clear evidence based on performance data or observable events
  - Methods for analyzing and summarizing performance data are unambiguous and transparent
  - Methods for verifying accomplishment of milestones are clear and objective
  - Baseline performance or conditions have been (or can be) established
  - Time frames are specified

- The measure is practical and affordable
  - Data sources are reliable and credible
  - Data collection and analysis are efficient
Critical Role of Performance Measures for Regulatory Agencies

• Data-driven assessment of performance
  – Feedback for continuous improvement
  – Understand what works

• Share priorities with regulatory partners
  – Within agency coordination (field, HQ, leadership)
  – Federal, state and local coordination

• Solicit input and communicate with stakeholders
  – Clarity on expectations
What are Performance Measures for other Stakeholders?

• Regulatory Agencies are one of many players
  – The full story of what is being done to reduce public health harm from foodborne hazards cannot be told by regulatory agencies

• Objective for Public meeting: Obtain Input from Stakeholders on Measures
  – What are the measures and data that other stakeholders are using to improve their processes for managing food safety?
Linking Performance Measures to Public Health Outcomes

- **Inputs** – resources needed to carry out organization’s mission
- **Activities** – Regulatory or business processes and services that produce outputs
- **Outputs** – the immediate results of the organization’s activities
- **Outcomes** – related to the consequences of outputs in the world, or the results that matter to the public, which often depend on factors beyond the organization’s control
  - Intermediate outcomes are changes in behavior or events that lead to…
  - Ultimate outcomes: improvements to public health and welfare

*Measures help us understand how well our work improves public health*

Improving the efficiency & effectiveness of operations

Focusing on achieving results that matter

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Current Performance Measures for Food Safety at FDA

• Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
  – ~ 20 with a food-component

• FDA-TRACK: Transparency, Results, Accountability, Credibility, Knowledge
  – Currently ~15 foods-related
GPRA Measures Reported in Annual Budget (Examples)

- Number of high risk food facilities inspected
- Number of import field exams
- Maintain accreditation for ORA labs
- Number of state, local and tribal regulatory agencies enrolled in the draft Voluntary Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards
- Convert data from new eLEXNET participating laboratories via automated exchange or convert data from existing manual exchange to automated data exchange
FDA-TRACK (Examples)

- Percentage of regulatory cases referred to OFS that were reviewed within the timeframe given to OFS in the Case Management System (measures time in OFS only) in the month
- Total number of firms with environmental samples taken during the month
- Total number of firms that had positive environmental samples during the month
Current Outcome Measures for Food Safety at FDA

• Healthy People 2020 Goals
  – Reduce infections caused by key pathogens transmitted commonly through food
  – Reduce the number of outbreak-associated infections caused by food commodity group
  – Increase the proportion of consumers who follow key food safety practices

• The Administration’s Priority Goal:
  – Reduce rate of illness from *Salmonella Enteritidis*
**Example of Logic Modeling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Intermediate Outcomes</th>
<th>Public Health Outcomes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Hiring</td>
<td>Number of high risk inspections</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce infections caused by key pathogens transmitted commonly through food</td>
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<td>• Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Equipment</td>
<td>Number of environmental samples taken</td>
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<td>• Coordination</td>
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<td>• Build lab capacity</td>
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Objectives for Public Meetings

• What are the measures being used by other stakeholders in the food safety system?
  – Do stakeholders have studies that show links between performance measures and desired outcomes?

• What ideas, thoughts and suggestions do stakeholders have for output and outcome measures that the regulatory agencies should use?
Next Steps

Next 6 – 12 months:
• Working with FSIS and CDC on sharing performance measures for Priority Goal of SE reduction as pilot
• Identify additional outputs and additional intermediate outcome measures – Public meetings as resource

Longer term:
• Identify data and methods needed for improved measures
• Collect data and track improved measures
• With multiple years of data, conduct analysis to estimate the relationships between outputs and outcomes