

OMB
Display Date 8-12-99
Publication Date 8-13-99
Certifier SN Reese

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 99N-1168]

Public Health Impact of Foodborne Listeria Monocytogenes

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, in conjunction with the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods, in cooperation with the Food Safety and Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (FSIS/USDA) is announcing a public meeting to discuss issues related to the risk assessment models under development to examine the relationship between *Listeria monocytogenes* and human health. The sponsoring agencies invite comments on issues related to this meeting.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23, 1999, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Submit registration and written notices of participation by September 13, 1999. Submit written comments by October 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at The Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, NW., at Massachusetts Ave. and 14th St., Washington, DC. Submit registration and written notices of participation to Catherine M. DeRoever (address below). Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine M. DeRoever, Advisory Committee Office (HFS-22), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Food and Drug Administration, 200 C

St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-205-4251, FAX 202-205-4970, or e-mail
“cderoeve@bangate.fda.gov”.

Those persons interested in attending the public meeting should, by September 13, 1999, fax their name, title, firm name, address, and telephone number to Catherine M. DeRoever (fax number above).

Those persons interested in presenting information at the public meeting should, by September 13, 1999, fax their name, title, firm name, address, telephone number, and an outline of their presentation to Catherine M. DeRoever (fax number above).

There is no registration fee for this public meeting, but advance registration is suggested. Interested persons are encouraged to register early because space may be limited.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This public meeting will provide an opportunity for an open discussion of the initial calculations of the *L. monocytogenes* risk assessment. The integrating of food groups, *L. monocytogenes* presence in foods and food consumption data will be described and preliminary conclusions drawn. The scientific inferences and models that can be made from the completed search and analysis of epidemiology and dose-response information will be presented. The risk assessment team will request comments on the approaches and analyses presented and on any additional analyses that should be performed.

The sponsoring agencies encourage individuals with relevant scientific data or information to present such information at the meeting or in written comments to this record.

A transcript of the public meeting will be prepared. Copies of the transcript may be requested in writing from the Freedom of Information Office (HFI-35), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 12A-16, Rockville, MD 20857, approximately 15 working days after the meeting.

The transcript of the public meeting and submitted comments will be available for public examination at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Dated: 8/6/99
August 6, 1999



Margaret M. Dotzel
Acting Associate Commissioner for Policy

[FR Doc. 99-???? Filed ??-??-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

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