

Questions for the TSE Advisory Committee
October 26, 2001

TOPIC 3

- 1) What is the public health risk to consumers that would warrant consideration of prohibiting the sale of bovine brain and products containing brain for human use?
- 2) Is there a consistent and appreciable difference in infectivity of various sections/areas of bovine brain? If so, what are the differences in relative degrees of infectivity of these areas?
- 3) Are there other bovine neurological tissues that, if used in consumer products (such as foods, dietary supplements, cosmetics, and certain non-application drugs), could also pose a significant health hazard? If so, what are the differences in relative degrees of infectivity of these tissues?
- 4) What physical, chemical, or biological factors of tissues and/or processes should FDA consider in reviewing procedures that may have the ability to reduce infectivity of bovine neurological tissues and products containing bovine neurological tissues?
- 5) What tests are available to ascertain changes in infectivity in products containing bovine neurological tissues as a result of processing?
- 6) What level of reduction in infectivity is necessary to consider products containing bovine neurological tissues non-infective or "safe" for human use?