



The Food Safety Research Consortium's
FSII Project: Phase 1

Session 4: System-Wide Risk Management

Meeting Data Needs for a Systems Approach to Food Safety

Michael Batz
FSRC/University of Maryland School of Medicine

University of Maryland School of Medicine
Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine



What are we talking about?

- A “systems” basis implies the broad objective of a farm-to-fork perspective
- Examples:
 - Resource allocation
 - Targeting interventions
 - Managing supply chains

Scientific Criteria to Ensure Safe Food

- Calls for “the development of a comprehensive national plan to harmonize the foodborne disease surveillance that is conducted by public health agencies with the monitoring of pathogens across the food production, processing, and distribution continuum that is conducted by food safety regulatory agencies”

FSII Project: Phase 1

Workshop on Public Sector Food Safety Data / Atlanta GA / 2-3 Nov 2006

3

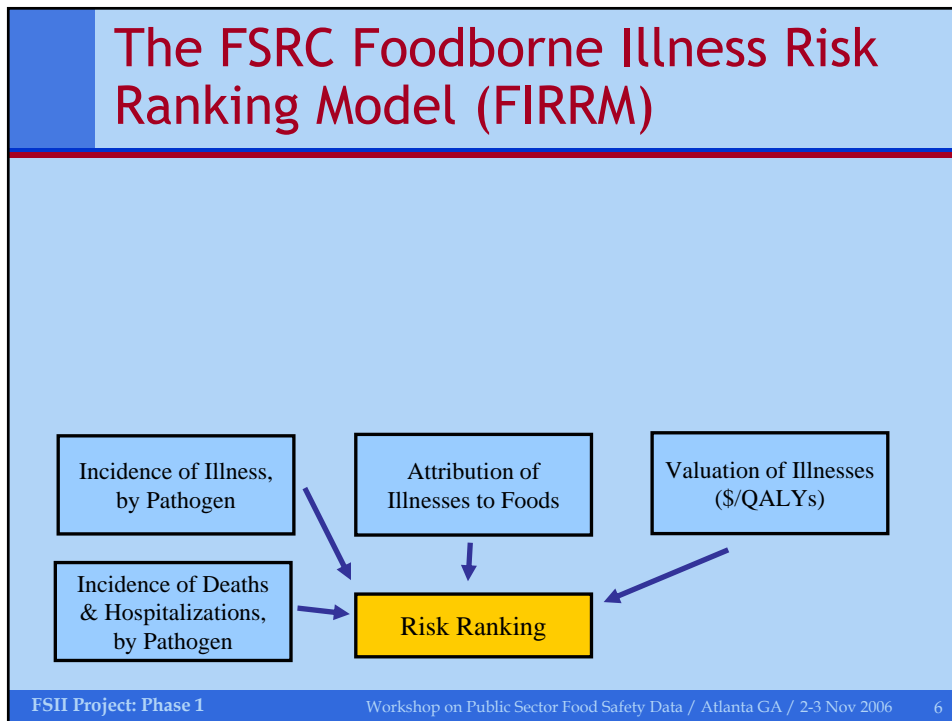
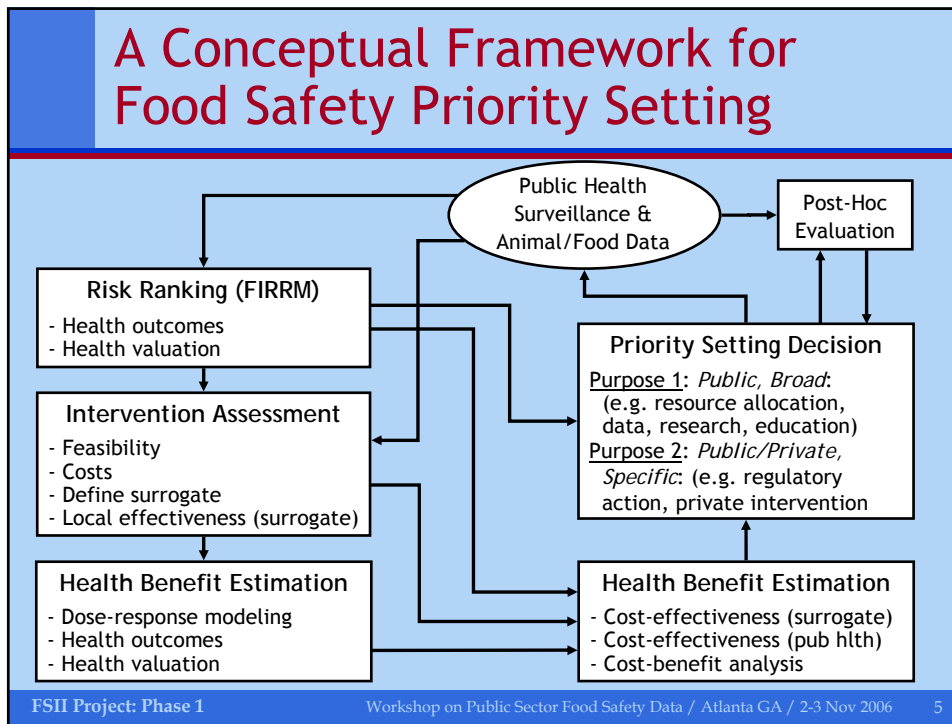
Scientific Criteria to Ensure Safe Food

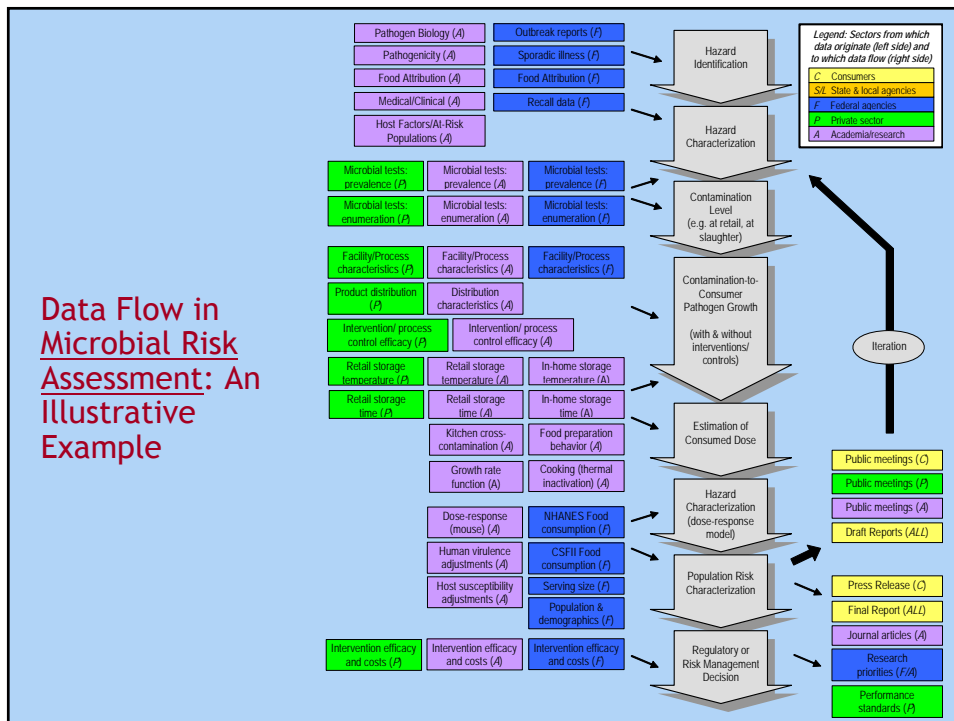
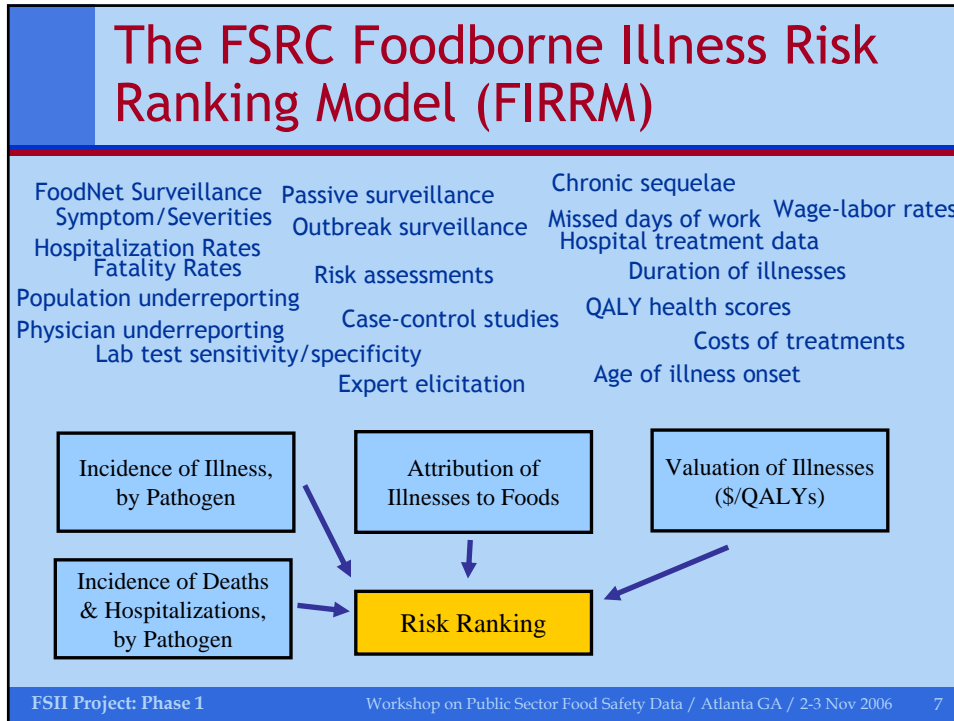
- Enhance FoodNet and PulseNet and increase data sharing between agencies.
- Both pathogen monitoring and foodborne illness surveillance should be reevaluated and retooled so that more explicit links between public health outcomes and food safety objectives can be met.
- Such an approach would take advantage of the existing infrastructure and concentrate efforts on the efficacy of these programs.

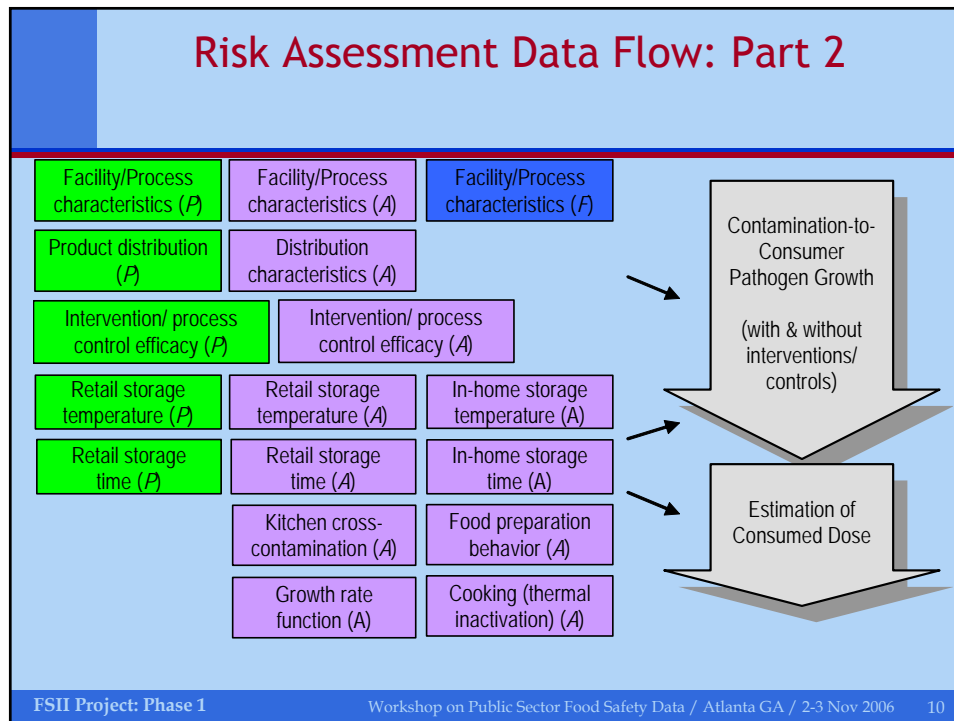
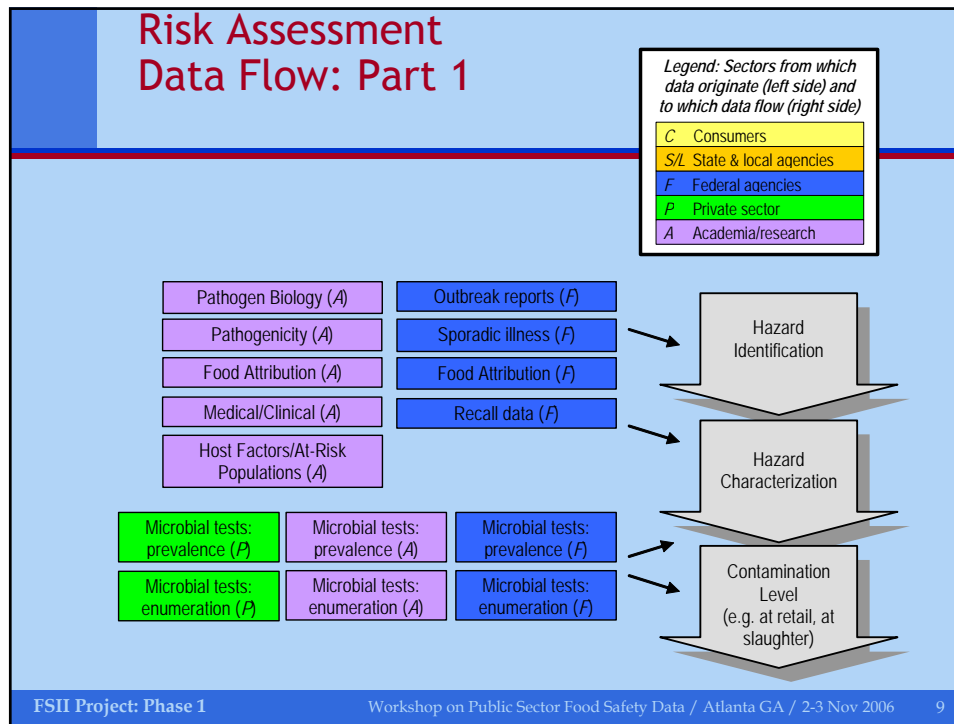
FSII Project: Phase 1

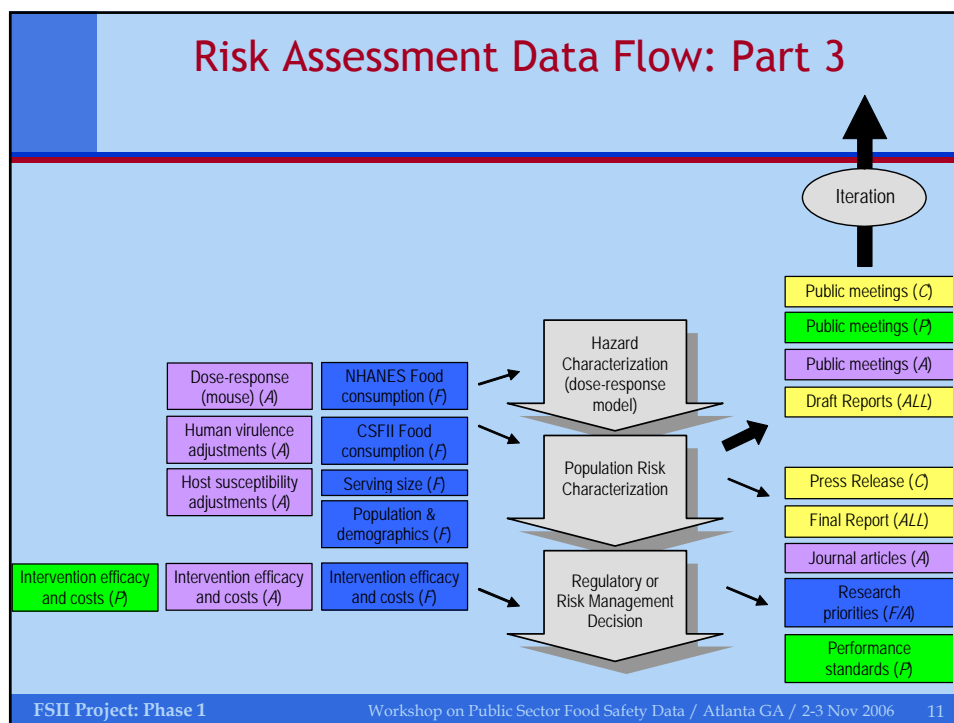
Workshop on Public Sector Food Safety Data / Atlanta GA / 2-3 Nov 2006

4









The fundamental connection

- Linking surveillance of human illnesses with monitoring of animals, foods, and the environment
 - Key to identifying risk factors
 - Key to linking interventions to public health outcomes
 - Key to attributing illnesses to foods/sources

The magical all-in-one database!

- A comprehensive data system to integrate disease surveillance and contamination data is a powerful idea, but is it feasible?
- ...well, Canada has one...
 - ... sortof
- Canadian Integrated Public Health Surveillance System (CIPHIS) project has:
 - Developed a lab data system and pilot tested it
 - But it's unclear what became of it...
 - *Or how beneficial it actually was or is*

FSII Project: Phase 1

Workshop on Public Sector Food Safety Data / Atlanta GA / 2-3 Nov 2006 13

Discussion Questions (1)

- What are the priority needs of public and private stakeholders for data to support a systems approach to improving food safety?
- In general, what roles and responsibilities is it reasonable to expect federal agencies to undertake in producing and making available food safety data to meet these needs?

FSII Project: Phase 1

Workshop on Public Sector Food Safety Data / Atlanta GA / 2-3 Nov 2006 14

Discussion Questions (2)

- Specifically what should be the roles and responsibilities of federal agencies in:
 - Conducting baseline studies?
 - Building public use data sets?
 - Maintaining inventories/repositories of relevant data, information, and analysis?
- What are the opportunities for better integrating surveillance data on human illnesses with monitoring data of animals, foods, and the environment?

Discussion Questions (3)

- What is the potential utility of state and local data for “systems” approaches to improving food safety?
- What are the obstacles and opportunities at the state and local level for generating and sharing such data