

Role of Research: A Regulatory Perspective

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Food Safety Research

- Will focus on research needs of regulatory agencies
- Includes need for
 - Knowledge
 - Data



Why Research Is Critical

- **Application of our food safety laws is based on scientific judgment and data**
- **Science is basis of regulatory programs**
 - Assessment of individual food manufacturers/importers
 - Development of food safety policies
 - Development of guidance
 - Emergency response
 - Labeling
 - Outreach/Education
 - Anticipating emerging public health concerns

Areas of Research/Data Needs

- **Characterization of hazards**
- **Analytical methodology**
- **Intervention technologies**
- **Assessment of risks**
- **Surveillance and attribution tools**
- **Status of the industry**
- **Human behavior**

Disciplines

- Microbiology/Molecular Biology
- Chemistry
- Medical Sciences
- Food Science
- Toxicology
- Epidemiology
- Applied Mathematics / Statistics
- Psychology/Education/Communication
- Variety of other scientific disciplines

Sources of Research/Data

- Intramural
- Extramural
- Leveraging
 - Interagency, consortia/collaborations, international
- Industry
- Inspectional surveillance
- Public health surveillance/statistics
- Investigational data

Challenges to Acquiring Knowledge and Data

- Diversity of food industry
 - Size
 - Continually changing
- Globalization of food industry
- Diversity of products and ingredients
- Farm-to-fork scope
- Timeliness of response
- Episodic nature of problems