

FOOD SAFETY AND FOODBORNE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS

PROCEEDINGS OF AN IRANIAN-AMERICAN WORKSHOP (2006)

In October 2004, more than 100 specialists from Iran and the United States met in Tehran for a three-day workshop on food safety and surveillance systems for foodborne diseases. Attendees were selected by the Research Center for Gastroenterology and Liver Disease of Shaheed Behshsti University and the U.S. Institute of Medicine, but participated in their personal capacities. The purposes of the workshop were to initiate contacts between Iranian and American specialists, exchange information about relevant activities in the two countries, and set the stage for future cooperation in the field.

The participants also identified important aspects of food safety that should be addressed more intensively by both countries, including surveillance, research, international trade, and risk assessment. These topics were featured as themes in many of the papers presented at the workshop.

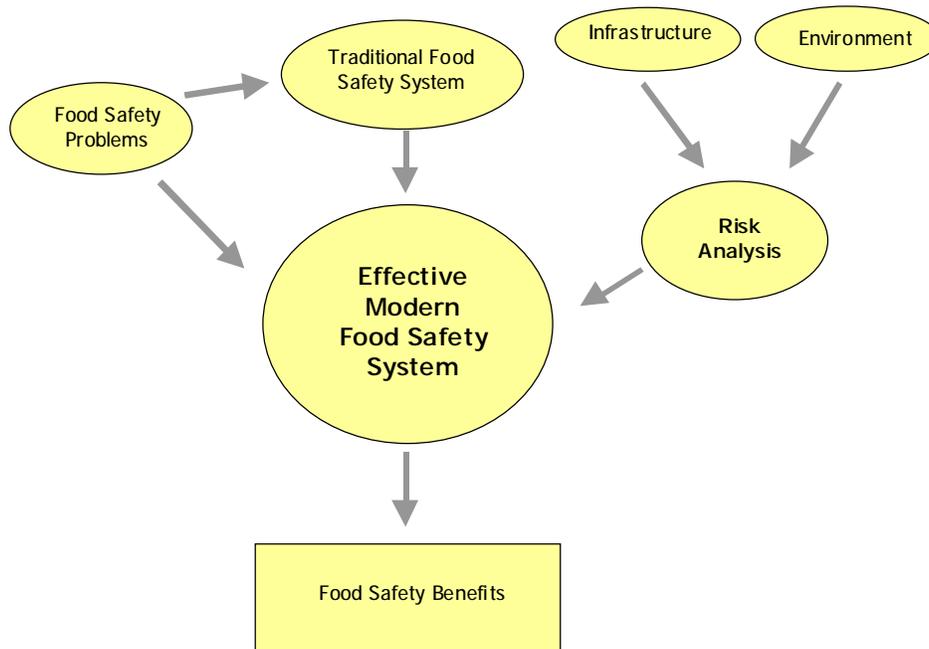
The workshop began with overviews of safety issues in Iran and the United States for food derived from animals and plants. Specialists from both countries then gave papers on a variety of topics. Representatives of the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization also made brief presentations. These presentations were followed by panel discussions.

At a final plenary session on future steps and opportunities, workshop participants agreed that further exchanges of ideas were necessary and made specific suggestions for future cooperation between Iran and the United States on food safety, foodborne disease surveillance, research, international trade, and risk assessment.

The proceedings contain the papers given on the topics listed below, together with summaries of the discussions that took place in the course of the workshop.

- The Role of the Institute of Standards and Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI) in Food Safety
- Foodborne Disease Investigations, Including Surveillance in Iran and the United States
- Inspection and Investigation: Tools for Detecting Sources of Food Contamination and Preventing Illness Outbreaks
- Food Monitoring, Investigation, and Inspection Infrastructure in Iran

- Food Traceability: A Response to Consumer
- The Role of Risk Analysis in a Science-Based Approach to Food Safety
- The Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System
- Implementing and Auditing HACCP Systems and Difficulties in Iran
- The History of Food Safety in Iran



The above figure shows an illustration of the challenges of integrating historical approaches to food safety and current realities into a current, effective food safety system.

NRC COMMITTEE ON THE U.S.-IRANIAN WORKSHOP ON FOOD SAFETY

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For More Information

Copies of *Food Safety and Foodborne Disease Surveillance Systems: Proceedings of an Iranian-American Workshop* are available from the National Academies Press; (800)624-6242 or (202)334-3313 (in the Washington metropolitan area), or online at <http://www.nap.edu>. For more information on the project, contact staff at (202) 334-2644 or visit the Policy and Global Affairs website at www.nationalacademies.org/pga (see Global Collaborations).