

COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND CHEMICAL SAFETY

Objectives:

The Committee on Food and Chemical Safety helps to assure the safety of foods by providing a forum to advance scientific issues related to chemicals of interest, such as additives, contaminants, and naturally-occurring components.

Committee Activities:

Responding to the FDA Food Advisory Committee's support of risk assessment-based approaches to protect food allergic consumers, a subcommittee convened to examine the feasibility of applying current data and risk assessment tools to establish food allergen thresholds. The Committee purchased peanut allergen clinical challenge data and provided it to Food Allergy Resource and Research Program (FARRP). FARRP analyzed the data and developed a dose-response curve for risk characterization of the sensitized population. This modeling approach could be used to establish population thresholds for peanut-allergic consumers and thereby provide a sound basis for allergen control measures in the food industry. The results have been published in Food and Chemical Toxicology in 2010, *"Threshold Dose for Peanut: Risk Characterization Based upon Diagnostic Oral Challenge of a Series of 286 Peanut-allergic Individuals."* Currently the committee is considering purchasing additional clinical data sets to broaden the types of allergens data sets beyond peanuts. Additional committee projects for this year include: evaluation of the relationship between artificial food colors and behavior; safety of ingested nano-scale materials; and the development of a heavy metal acceptance tool for raw material ingredients that are used in the production of food products. More information can be found on the committee's webpage.

Committee Members:

Abbott Nutrition
Cargill, Incorporated
The Coca-Cola Company
ConAgra Foods, Inc.
Dr Pepper Snapple Group
General Mills
Kellogg Company
Kraft Foods Inc.
Mars, Incorporated
Monsanto Company
Nestlé USA
PepsiCo Inc.
Sara Lee Corporation
Senomyx, Inc.
Unilever

Science Advisors and Liaisons:

Joseph Hotchkiss, PhD
Michigan State University
Sabine Francke-Carroll, PhD
*United States Food and Drug Administration/
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (Liaison)*
Richard Canady, PhD
ILSI Research Foundation

Staff Contact:

Alison Kretser, MS, RD
Senior Science Program Manager
ILSI North America
1156 15 St., NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: 202.659.0074
Fax: 202.659.3859
akretser@ilsil.org

