



ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT - 2012

Please submit this report to Chuck Hofacre, Bob Bevans-Kerr or Janece Bevans-Kerr by 4:00pm Monday, Aug. 6, 2012

Committee Name: Diseases of Public Health Significance (DPHS)

Date: August 4, 2012, 3:30-4:30pm

Committee Chair and term: F. William (Bill) Pierson (2013)

Board Liaison: Francene Van Sambeek

Core Committee Members and terms: Proposed vice-chair (David Suarez 2014)

Committee Members: In attendance - Bill Pierson, Johannes Aka, Patty Dunn, David Zellner, Don Waldrip, David Suarez, Teresa Cerano, Francene Van Sambeek, Lynne Cassone, Randy Chick, Bruce Stewart-Brown – Not in attendance – Nat Tablante, Fidel Hegngi, Agnes Agunos, Alejandro Banda, Bob Edson, Krisna Roy,

1. Briefly explain the topics discussed during your committee meeting.

- a. Reviewed Committee Report from 2011
- b. Reviewed current mission statement (per 2011)

The mission of the AAAP Committee on Diseases of Public Health Significance is to: *a) to address current and emerging risks to public health associated with commercial poultry production, the rearing of backyard / hobby flocks, and general exposure to avian species, b) to enhance the transfer knowledge and provide educational materials to industry personnel and the general public, c) to assist the AAAP in establishing research priorities, d) to advise the AAAP regarding relevant public opinion and pending legislation.*

Additional verbiage was suggested to clarify distinction between DPHS and Food Safety Committee

- c. Carry-over of objectives from 2011 – Generate a list of infectious disease agents considered to pose real or perceived risks to public health
 - 1) Avian Influenza / Swine Influenza virus (H1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7)
 - 2) Chlamydiophila
 - 3) Newcastle / APMV-1
 - 4) *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*

- 5) *Mycobacterium avium*
- 6) *Salmonella* spp.(from handling infected poultry)
- 7) *Campylobacter jejuni* (from handling infected poultry)
- 8) West Nile virus, eastern equine encephalitis virus
- 9) Avian Astrovirus (seroconversion detected in humans)
- 10) Hepatitis E virus (Avian clades, Swine clades found to cause seroconversion in humans)
- 11) Methicillin Resistant Staph (MRSA, MRSA(P), Coagulase Negative Staph (*S. lenti*)
- 12) Marek's Disease virus
- 13) Retroviruses (ALV, Rous sarcoma)
- 14) MDR *Enterococcus faecalis*, *E. faecium*
- 15) *Giardia lamblia*
- 16) *Cryptosporidia bailei*

d. Non-infectious diseases

- 1) Particulates / allergens– dander / dust from commercial operations
- 2) Ammonia – chronic exposure

e. The committee proposed ranking of the agents listed above. Ranking will be performed electronically by committee members and select public health veterinarians according to two criteria:

- 1) Perceived risk by general public
- 2) Actual or likely risk based on scientific data or experience

f. A “white paper” addressing some or all of the above diseases based on the electronic survey will be undertaken. Patty Dunn has already written a basic (extension-type) handout. This may serve as the basis for a formal “white paper”. Authorship has yet to be determined.

g. Generate a corresponding list of agents / diseases that generate FAQs relative to poultry and public health

- 1) Rabies virus
- 2) Chicken Pox (varicella zoster virus - VZV)
- 3) Gastrointestinal parasites (nematodes, cestodes)

h. Identify a vice-chair – David Suarez was nominated (*in absentia*) primarily because of the importance of AI as a real / perceived risk. He has not yet accepted.

i. Bill Pierson is serving on National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) / National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) / Subcommittee on respiratory and zoonotic diseases of veterinary and animal care workers. AAAP was asked to provide representative to the committee. Pierson, already on the committee, agreed to serve in this role.

j. Future Symposia- Nat Tablante (*in absentia*) proposed a combined symposium – sponsored by the Education, Epidemiology, and DPHS committees. The DPHS committee did not believe it would not be ready until 2014 to put a symposium proposal together.

k. Bruce Stewart-Brown suggested that the committee take a more prominent role in the development of the Disease of Public Health Significance – Chapter in Diseases of Poultry (DoP) 14th ed. The Chapter in DoP as well as practical “White Papers” should / would be very useful in educating poultry company employees and the general public regarding risks associated with raising and slaughtering poultry. This will be important for small backyard producers as well.

2. Can you inform the AAAP Board of Directors about any issues, pending legislation or foreseeable rule making by the federal government in your committee’s area? If so, please list.

Not at this time.

3. Could your committee create a white paper on an issue or issues that may require Board action?

Yes – See Item 1

4. Is your committee interested in organizing a symposium and if so, when? (Committees interested in conducting a symposium must submit a symposium proposal to the board of directors no less than one year in advance. Two years is optimal. There is a symposium proposal form including a timetable available on the website.)

Yes – See Item 1

5. Does your committee have a product in mind that will benefit the AAAP membership, poultry community or public at large? If so, what and what is your timetable?

The committee is prepared to participate in the development of the next chapter on Disease of Public Health Significance in the 14th edition of DoP if asked.

6. Do you have topics to suggest for the Research Priorities committee?

Consider funding research substantiating turkeys, because of their increased susceptibility, as a sentinel-detection species / pathogenicity indicator for AI. Research should also establish standardized protocols for the same.