

Rapid Response Teams



Rapid Response Team Meeting Agenda

September 15-17, 2025

Location: Virtual

Monday, September 15, 2025 RRT Session Location: Virtual	
Eastern Time	Moderator: Samantha Spencer, Epidemiologist II, Texas Department of State Health Services
11:25 am – 11:35 am	Housekeeping & Welcome Quynh Anh Tran, Consumer Safety Officer/RRT Specialist, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
11:35 am – 12:05 pm	Speed Introductions Video
12:05 pm – 1:00 pm	Looking for Zebras Dr. Sin Urban, Ph.D., Chief, Division of Environmental Sciences, Public Health Laboratory, Maryland Department of Health Erin Smilanich, RRT Coordinator, Food and Feed Safety Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Meghan Cahill, RRT Coordinator, Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection Alicia Pell, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Alexa Gunter, Laboratory Supervisor, State Public Health Laboratory, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
1:00 pm – 1:10 pm	Break <i>Come back 5 minutes before the start of the next session for a Kahoot! challenge.</i>
	Moderator: Anna Newton, Epidemiologist, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1:10 pm – 2:00 pm	Psychedelics at the Plate: When Health Takes a Foul Ball Erin Smilanich, RRT Coordinator, Food and Feed Safety Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Theresa Dulski, MD, MPH, Career Epidemiology Officer, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Oliver Ou, Program Coordinator, Human Food Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Dr. Sin Urban, PhD, Chief, Division of Environmental Sciences, Public Health Laboratory, Maryland Department of Health Talisha Bacon, RRT Coordinator, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Spring Training = Fall Success – Response to Natural Disasters Tishara Coleman, RRT Coordinator, Consumer Protection Division, Texas Department of State Health Services Joan Sims, Compliance and Response Manager, Food and Drug Protection Division, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Summer Williams, Food Safety Division Deputy Director, Georgia Department of Agriculture
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Break <i>Come back 10 minutes before the start of the next session for a Kahoot! challenge.</i>

	Moderator: Michelle Kusnier, Rapid Response Team Food Safety Specialist, Human Food Division, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	HPAI in the Big Leagues: A Multi-Agency Home Run Response Ashlee-Rose Ferguson, Animal Feed Program Manager, Food Safety and Consumer Services Division, Washington State Department of Agriculture Sheryl Shaw, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, Chief Public Health Veterinarian, Office of Public Health Science, U.S. Department of Agriculture Christian Bond, Chief, Emergency Response Unit, Food and Drug Branch, California Department of Public Health Mark Glover, Emergency Response Coordinator, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Tim Slawinski, Director, Bureau of Food Safety and Animal Health Division, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development David Rotstein, Consumer Safety Officer, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Kelsey Volkman, Emergency Response Coordinator, Office of Inspections and Investigations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Herminio Francisco, Emergency Response Coordinator, Office of Inspections and Investigations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Lynn Post, Toxicologist, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Megan Miller, Staff Fellow, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Kathleen Proia, DVM, Veterinary Medical Officer, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
3:45 pm – 4:30 pm	Hit a Home Run in Communications Lee Anne Palmer, Veterinary Medical Officer, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Lauren Carey, Veterinary Medical Officer, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration David Rotstein, Consumer Safety Officer, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration David Minor, RRT Coordinator, Food Safety and Consumer Services Division, Washington State Department of Agriculture
4:30 pm	Adjourn

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 RRT Session Location: Virtual	
Eastern Time	Moderator: Matthew Schwei, RRT Coordinator, Division of Food and Recreational Business Safety, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
11:25 am – 11:30 am	Housekeeping & Welcome
11:30 am – 11:50 am	Major League Moves to Manage HPAI Risk in Raw Milk Testing Sally Flowers, Scientific Affairs Director, Association of Food and Drug Officials
11:50 am – 12:30 pm	Indian Country and the RRT Talisha Bacon, MPH, LEHS, RRT Coordinator, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Thao Schlichte, RRT Coordinator, Food Safety Bureau, Iowa Department of Inspections Appeals and Licensing
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	FoodSHIELD - Retail Index Demonstration and Toolkit Overview Josh Davis, DataStream Connexions Richie Villegas, DataStream Connexions
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Break <i>Come back 5 minutes before the start of the next session for a Kahoot! challenge.</i>

	Moderator: Jill Miller, RRT Coordinator, Plants and Produce Services Division, Arizona Department of Agriculture
1:15 pm – 1:55 pm	FDA Microbial Method Development Stephen Hughes, Consumer Safety Officer, Office of Applied Microbiology and Technology, Office of Laboratory Operations and Applied Science, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Kellie Burris, Research Biologist, Office of Applied Microbiology and Technology, Office of Laboratory Operations and Applied Science, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Laurel Burall, Research Microbiologist, Office of Applied Microbiology and Technology, Office of Laboratory Operations and Applied Science, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Tong-Jen Fu, Research Chemical Engineer, Office of Applied Microbiology and Technology, Division of Food Processing Science and Technology, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Yi Chen, Research Microbiologist, Office of Applied Microbiology and Technology, Office of Laboratory Operations and Applied Science, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
1:55 pm – 2:55 pm	Out of Left Field: The Boar's Head Listeria Curveball Eyamba Sowers Scott, RRT Coordinator, Food Safety and Compliance Department, South Carolina Department of Agriculture Erin Kafka, RRT Coordinator, Office of Food Protection, Maryland Department of Health Doug Noveroske, Epidemiologist, Office of Public Health Science, Food Safety Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture Allie Busbee, Epidemiologist, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2:55 pm – 3:25pm	Break <i>Come back 10 minutes before the start of the next session for a Kahoot! challenge.</i>
	Moderator: Danielle Glavan, RRT Coordinator, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
3:25 pm – 3:55 pm	A Grand Slam for Surveillance: The Cotija Sample that Ended a 10 Year Listeria Outbreak Lauren Yeung, Health Scientist, Office of Regulatory Testing and Surveillance, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Margaret Kirchner, Biologist, Office of Coordinated Outbreak Response and Evaluation, Response Team 2, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Michael Burke, Branch Chief, Food and Drug Branch, Hawaii Department of Health Remedios Gose, Branch Chief, Laboratory Preparedness and Response Branch, Hawaii Department of Health Nicole Yuen, Emergency Response Coordinator, Office of Inspections and Investigations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
3:55 pm – 4:30 pm	Double Play: CVM Reorganization and CERB Update Isaac Carney, Director, Division of Food Compliance, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration April Hodges, Branch Chief, Complaint Emergency Recall Branch, Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
4:30 pm	Adjourn

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 Joint MFRPA and RRT Session Location: Virtual	
10:30 am – 11:20 am	Tailgate Wednesday Networking Event This is a sports themed virtual networking event session. Participants are encouraged to wear their favorite sports gear to show their team pride. All RRT and MFRPA attendees are invited to connect, participate in fun RRT-inspired games, and get to know one another.
Eastern Time	Moderator: Michelle Boyd, Assistant Bureau Chief, Food Safety Bureau, Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing

11:20 am – 11:30 am	Joint MFRPA-RRT Meeting Session Kick-off Angela Montalbano, Assistant Director, Division of Food Safety and Inspection, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Lisa Joseph, Consumer Safety Officer/RRT Specialist, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
11:30 am – 12:10 pm	FDA Food Program Reorganization Update Erik Mettler, M.P.A, M.P.H, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Lori Holmquist, Acting Associate Director for Food Products Inspectorate, Office of Inspections and Investigations, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Capt. Dominic Frasca, PhD, CEM, Director, Division of Emergency Response, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
12:10 pm – 1:00 pm	FDA Contracts and Cooperative Agreement Update Teresa Bills, Supervisory Consumer Safety Officer, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Nicola Areshenko, Project Manager, Division of Partnership Investments and Agreements, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Thanh Andrews, Project Manager, Division of Partnership Investments and Agreements, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Lisa Joseph, Consumer Safety Officer/RRT Specialist, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
1:00 pm – 1:10 pm	Break
	Moderator: Alida Sorenson, Supervisor, Response and Outreach, Food and Feed Safety Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
1:10 pm – 1:55 pm	Innovative Approaches for Recruiting and Retaining Personnel Summer Williams, Food Safety Division Deputy Director, Georgia Department of Agriculture Brad Deacon, Director of Legal Affairs & Emergency Management Coordinator, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
1:55 pm – 2:30 pm	Food Traceability Rule Update Margaret Klug, National Expert, Human Foods Program, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Lunch Break
	Moderator: Melanie Voges, Consumer Safety Officer, Office of Inspections and Investigations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	FDA Office of Training Education and Development and Regulatory and Laboratory Training System (RLTS) Update Brooke Mullican, Acting Director, Office of Training Education and Development, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Daniel Osei, Division Director, Division of Programmatic Training, Office of Training Education and Development, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Adam Betman, Program Analyst, Program Services Staff, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Lead in Cinnamon - WanaBana Outbreak Investigation Panel Natalie Cataldo, Regulatory Officer, Office of Coordinated Outbreak Response and Evaluation, Response Team 2, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Heather Birt, Recall Coordinator, Human Food Division, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Kyle Shannon, Chief, Center for Food Emergency Response and Defense, Maryland Department of Health Daniel Gaines, Food Program Administrator, Food and Drug Protection Division, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Allison Scott, Supervisory Consumer Safety Officer, Division of Import Operations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
4:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Wrap up and Report Outs Lisa Joseph, Consumer Safety Officer/RRT Specialist, Office of Integrated Food Safety System Partnerships, Office of Domestic Partnerships, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
4:30 pm	Adjourn

