

Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Diseases PDG

Names of Attendees: Amanda Tabb, Amira Ayad, Amy Parks, Andrea Etter, Andrew Appiah Darkwah, Andrew Morin, Angelina Adjetey, Angela Valadez, Aniket Sharma, Anna Schumann, Anuradha Punchihewage Don, Aytan Pirverdiyeva, Autumn Stoll, Alex Hanley, Alexis Omar, Allisson Guevara Milla, Alvin Lee, Aldo Xoxocotla Sánchez, Abdullahi Idris Muhammad, Benjamin Warren, Beth Wittenauer, Betty Yaohua Feng, Bradd Haley, Brandon Gartman, Brenna DeRocili, Brian Goodwyn, Chi-An Lee, Caroline Yates, Conrad Redlitz, Comfort Kwamikorkor, Christine Bruhn, Cyril Ayuk Etaka, Cristina Resendiz-Moctezuma, Daun Kim, David Mugabo, Deiaa Hassanein, Devin LaPolt, Dikshya Shilpakar, Doris D'Souza, Elma Kontor-Manu, Edith Zambrana, Emma Shoemaker, Esther Haviland, Eurydice Aboagye, Favour Okunbi, Festus Tawose, Francis Torko, Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, Gabriella Strocko, Gerald Lekan, Grace Akumu, Greg Siragusa, Han Chen, Hanyi Shi, Hae Woong Park, Harsimran Kaur Kapoor, Hui Key Lee, Irshad Sulaiman, Indu Aashritha Idumalla, Jack Sarcone, Jacqueline Southee, Jacquelinna Woods, Jadé Giordani, Janice Ball, Jennifer McEntire, Jenny Maloney, Jill Stuber, Jim Hartman, John Saniga, Jr., Joshua Owade, Julie Jean, Julian Cox, Kailyn Hanke, Kaitlin Smith, Katherine Sierra, Kate Woo, Keith Ito, Khwahish Jawariya, Kolawole Banwo, Kristen Gibson, Kris Sollid, Kunna Faal, Kyle McCaughan, Kyle Stoutenberg, Ledon Black, Laura Lalonde, Leticia Mallmann, Melanie Rank, Maria Luisa Klobongona, Manan Sharma, Mauricio Durigan, Marie-Ève Collard, Marianne Levasseur, Mark Moorman, Maureen Hanley, Matthew Moore, Mathilde Trudel-Ferland, Micah Black, Michael Ciaramella, Millicent Tetteh, Minji Hur, Miranda de Graaf, Miriam Ruiz, Mohana Neelakrishnan, Morgan Welch, Myoengsin Choi, Myra Maldonado, Md Ashrafudoulla, Nicholas Lippard, Nigel Thorgrimsson, Nitin Puri, Neelam Sharma, Nuradeen Yusuf, Pamela Wilger, Patrick Mies, Puja Boidya, Purnendu Vasavada, Pratiksha Kotkar, Rebecca Crouthamel, Ranee Anderson, Rosemarie

Christopher, Sahaana Chandran, Sabahnur Demirci, Sam Hadden, Sarita Raengpradub, Sean Foster, Sean Montgomery, Seulgi Jeong, Shahram Ajamian, Shuang Yu, Sitara Cullinan, Sonia Almeria, Staci Richardson, Sultan Al Taher, Susan Leonard, Surabhi Wason, Swapnika Medikonda, Tamra Tolen, Tia Glave, Tony Flood, Tongzhou Xu, Trina Garcia, Vanessa de Vasconcellos, Vera Arthur, Viktoria Wagner, Vijay Krishna, Wilfredo Ocasio, Yhuliana Nino.

Total Number of Attendees: 127.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, July 27, 2025, 8:30 A.M.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Matthew Moore.

Old Business: The minutes from IAFP 2024 PDG meeting were approved with no modifications.

New Business: Updates from the IAFP Executive Board provided by email by IAFP vice president Dr. Manan Sharma were all read at the meeting. For IAFP 2025, more than 2,900 attendees have registered to attend. Among other important information, the IAFP this year is excited to announce its own podcast with a sneak peek at the opening session. In addition, this year IAFP are piloting AI-generated closed captioning for all sessions and welcome feedback after the meeting. We encouraged Members to visit the Exhibit floor and talk to the exhibitors to learn from them and share your needs with them. PDGs are essential to the success of IAFP. Last year, the acceptance rate for submitted symposia/roundtable proposals was 36% so we asked Members to prioritize the quality and information rather than quantity of session submitted from our PDG. Additional IAFP announcements included the message from the Editors of *Journal of Food Protection* about invited reviews and from the chair of the IAFP

Webinar Committee for webinar discussion. Additional safety announcements were provided by Sonia Almeria including the review of the Anti-Trust Guidelines. Dr. Almeria reviewed accepted sponsored or co-sponsored proposals including symposia and roundtables. There was also a note about numerous posters and technical sessions that will be presented and are relevant to the Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Diseases PDG. There were three Brief Research Updates (5-10 minutes each) to the PDG: 1) about foodborne parasites by Dr. Laura Lalonde (CFIA, Canada). Summary of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) meeting on protozoal foodborne parasites 2025. 2) on foodborne viruses by Dr. Kristen Gibson (University of Arkansas). Update on research related to noroviruses and viral inactivation, 3) about both foodborne parasites and viruses by Dr. Mathilde Trudel-Ferland (University of Delaware). Highlights of research inquiries of protozoa and viruses in agricultural environments. After the research updates, there were some announcements and thanks from IAFP Board Liaison Dr. Manan Sharma

In preparation for IAFP 2026 in New Orleans, LA, July 26–29, 2026, roundtable, webinars and symposia topics were suggested and discussed. PDG participated in breakout groups to consider important questions and areas of research related to viral and parasitic foodborne diseases that would be good symposium topics for IAFP 2026. Ideas have been listed based on group sharing. The Members broke out into 3 large groups for networking and discussion of session proposals.

Group 1 – proposals: -Viral and parasitic Next generation sequencing updates in foods as well as source tracking, Surveillance studies of viruses and parasites in foods, and what we have, what we need and what we can learn from them, Persistence/prevalence in foods, soil, agriculture water, processing environment and water, Overview of FAO report on parasites.

Group 2 – proposals: FAO parasites joint meeting overview (could be combined with idea from Group, Prevalence of viruses and parasites in different water sources, how to apply new methods? NGS for viruses and parasites in water and food (mollusks) highlighting novel probe-capture based methods (maybe combine with method comparison?) BAM versus ISO methods for virus detection (Jaykus, Guix, Esseili).

Group 3 – proposals: Symposium on HPAI in food processing environments and what we know about HPAI in current processing of high-risk foods. Potentially roundtable discussion on foodborne virus vaccination, and vaccination in food handlers; updates on norovirus vaccine. Potential collaboration with retail PDG; include Members of panel from industry, government, academia. Understanding the zoonotic risk of hepatitis E virus, given what is known about their prevalence, Hydroponic food safety, including viral risks. Could potentially involve Produce PDG. Virus/Parasite-bacteria (especially biofilms) interactions and their potential influence on viral and parasitic persistence in foods and food processing environments, Updates on viral recovery/concentration and detection in foods and the environment.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Dr. Matthew Moore was elected Vice Chair of the Viral and Parasitic Foodborne Disease PDG on March 26, 2025. We recommend that this is approved by the Executive Board.

Next Meeting Date: July 26, 2026, New Orleans, LA.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 A.M.

Chairperson Name: Maria (Sonia) Almeria.