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**COMMITTEE NAME:** Allergen Committee

**DATE OF REPORT:**  Initial fall progress report  Spring progress report  Second fall progress report

**Date submitted:** [Click here to enter a date.](#) **Date amended (if applicable):** [Click here to enter a date.](#) **Date accepted by Executive Board:** [Click here to enter a date.](#)

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:**  Council I  Council II  Council III  Executive Board

**REPORT SUBMITTED BY:** : Co-Chairs Dr. Amani Babekir and Michelle Hill

**COMMITTEE CHARGE(S):**

**Issue #** 2020-II-011

1. Develop an operational framework for food allergy prevention and control using existing research and other evidence-based materials (for example: CDC guidance in schools and guidance developed by retail food industry) in retail food establishments including:
  - a. A written template retail food establishments can use to reduce the risk of food allergy reactions and respond to any reactions that do occur. The template can incorporate findings, lessons, materials, etc. from items b-f.
  - b. Steps to take during a food allergy emergency and identify key components of food allergy emergency plans.
  - c. Food allergy training for food workers and identify educational content and training needs based on employees' assigned duties.
  - d. Findings, recommendations, and materials from the 2018 Allergen Committee to ensure retail food establishments have tools to notify customers when menu items contain major food allergens.
  - e. Food-handling practices, policies, and procedures to prevent food allergens from unintentionally contacting another food.
  - f. Equal considerations for alternate food sources, such as food pantries and food banks, to ensure equity and access.
2. Recommend changes to the Food Code that support retail food establishments to operationalize framework to prevent and control food allergic reactions.
3. Report back findings and recommendations to the next Biennial Meeting of the Conference for Food Protection

**COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND TIMELINE:**

- Develop an operational framework for food allergy prevention and control in retail food establishments. Target date end of July 2022.
- The committee members divided into five subgroups to develop the sections of the framework detailed in charge 1. Subgroup a (template), subgroup b (emergency plan), subgroup c (training), subgroup d (notification), subgroup e (practices), and subgroup f (equal consideration).
- Subgroups b, c, d, and e are to complete their drafts by 4/1/2021. Subgroups e and f are to finish their work by July.

**1. Dates of committee meetings or conference calls:**

The committee meets biweekly, and the subgroups meets weekly.

Committee completed meetings:

11/12/21 11/23/21 12/09/21 12/22/21 01/06/22 01/20/22 02/03/22 02/17/22 03/03/22 03/17/22

The subgroups completed meetings:

Week of 2/13/2022, 2/20/22, 2/27/22, 3/6/2022, 3/13/2022, 3/20/22

**2. Overview of committee activities:**

- Updating committee roster
- Meeting with FDA consultants to facilitate collaborative work and discussion
- Connecting with the council to support the committee ask and work

- Connecting with external party such as servsafe to support the committee work
- Exchanging educational materials related to the committee charges

3. **Charges COMPLETED and the rationale for each specific recommendation:**

- a.
- b.

4. **Status of charges still PENDING and activities yet to be completed:**

- a.

**COMMITTEE REQUESTED ACTION FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

- Board Action is NOT required and therefore the report can be placed on the consent calendar for Board review and acceptance.**  
 **Board Action is required for some provision(s) of this report and therefore a verbal report needs to be presented at the Board Meeting.**

1.

2.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **Content Documents:**

- a. **Committee Member Roster:**  See changes noted above under "requested action"  No changes to previously approved roster  
"Committee Members Template" (Excel) available at: [www.foodprotect.org/work/](http://www.foodprotect.org/work/) Committee roster to be submitted as a PDF attachment to this report.
- b. **Committee Generated Content Documents (OPTIONAL):**  No draft content documents submitted at this time

2. **Supporting Attachments (OPTIONAL):**  Not applicable