

Blade Tenderization Committee

Committee Members

Paul M. Uhler – Co-chair
Kenney, Stephen – Co-chair
Bohm, Shirley
Garren, Donna
Gordon, Christopher
Harris, Andrew
Kruger, Larry
Lawrence, Jeff – new job, resigned
McFarlane, Brian
Nunmer, Brian
Rossman, Michelle
Rossow, Todd
Shaffner, Don
Schwarz, Thomas
Sharar, Amelia
Shaw, William
Tart, Alan
Wanucha, Donna – new member; joined at second meeting

The committee met on January 31 and March 9. Eight members attended the first meeting and twelve attended the second. One member from state government resigned and another from the federal government joined. A meeting is planned for April but no date has been set.

The committee on blade tenderization held 2 meetings – January 31 and March 9. The discussions to date have focused on the part of the charge regarding definitions for mechanically tenderized and injected and any changes that would be required to the Food Code if 2 separate definitions replaced the current definition for injected. The committee discussed 3 options to address the issue – retain the definition of “injected” as is but include information on the advisory statement on serving “rare” steak, retain the definition of injected but include a statement on the consumer advisory to Annex 3, or use 2 definitions.

A vote will be taken by email on the options. FDA will provide some background to the current definition since it is the only one to contain a risk statement – toxigenic or infectious microorganisms can be transferred to product interior.