

Policy Statement: Uniform and Integrated Food Safety System Adoption

One in six Americans get sick from contaminated foods or beverages and 3,000 die each year
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,

Justification

The voluntary standards (either retail or manufactured food) provide a framework for self assessment of regulatory programs. Along with the self assessment, these standards encourage programs to meet a minimum standard and encourage proactive development of processes to exceed the minimums and to ultimately prevent foodborne illness.

FDA's *Food Code* is revised on a 4 year cycle (with a supplement issued on the intervening 2 year cycle). The *Food Code* is designed to reflect the latest scientific principles that are arrived at through a consensus approach with the Conference for Food Protection. This mechanism allows for the input of regulatory, academic, industry, and consumer groups to be incorporated into the changes.

Environmental assessments or other root cause analysis techniques are critical when

An integrated food safety system (IFSS) represents a seamless

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration. (2013). *Food code: 2013 recommendations of the United States Public Health Service Food and Drug Administration*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office. Retrieved from <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceRegulation/RetailFoodProtection/FoodCode/UCM374510.pdf>

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