EFSAscience
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EFSA Scientific Colloquium 3
European Food Consumption Database: Current and medium to long term strategies

28-29 April 2005
Brussels, Belgium

Briefing notes for discussion groups

Discussion Group 1 and 2:	Methodological issues in the use of food consumption data for dietary exposure assessment

1) **Which minimum quality criteria are required for the use of a food survey to be used in exposure assessment?**

2) **Which pragmatic approach can we take to deal with high percentiles?**

   High percentiles of consumption in consumers allow assessing exposure in a worst case scenario. How can we deal with uncertainty in the estimation of high percentiles?

3) **How to deal with limitations of data?**

   - Under-reporting
   - Lack of individual body weight
   - Which methods can we use to assess long term exposure from short term food surveys?

4) **How can we deal with consumer loyalty to particular food items?**

5) **What are the implications for the concise EU food consumption database currently under development by EFSA for preliminary exposure assessment?**

6) **What are the implications for medium and long-term strategies?**

Discussion Group 3 and 4:	Different data needs for the various areas to be covered by EFSA, e.g. microbes, pesticides, packaging materials

Dietary exposure is an essential component of the food risk assessment. It is used for both chemical and biological hazards and relies on various types of risk (short term or chronic effects). Nevertheless the data available for estimating food consumption are limited and represented by economic surveys on households or populations on the one hand and by individual surveys on the other hand.

1) **What are the general needs for exposure assessment?**

2) **What are the specific needs for exposure assessment in the various areas?**

3) **Which food consumption data are available for the specific purposes?**

4) **What are possible ways for improvement of data quality?**

5) **What are the implications for the concise EU food consumption database under development by EFSA for preliminary exposure assessment**

6) **What are the implications for medium and long-term strategies?**