



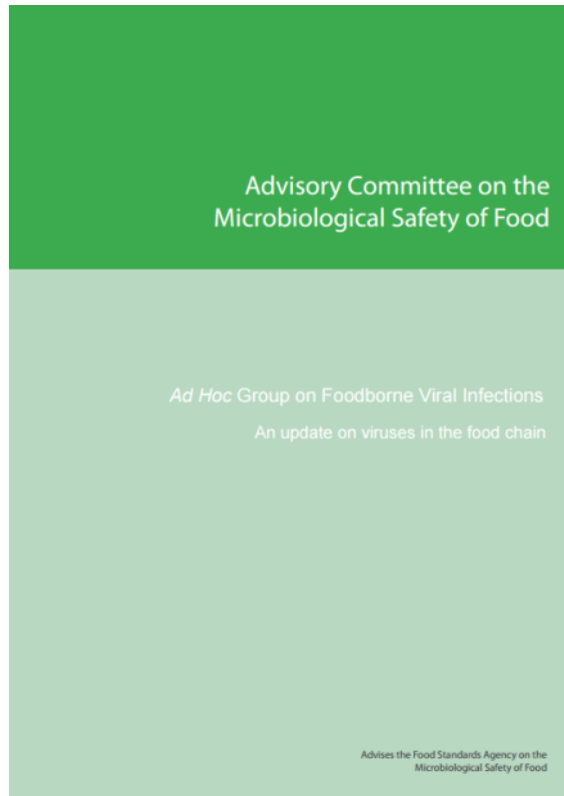
Food
Standards
Agency
food.gov.uk



11th May 2016

Giorgia Albieri

Foodborne viruses – an emerging risk



FSA-EFSA Workshop on Foodborne Viruses

Steering Committee: Representatives from EFSA, FSA, CEFAS and 5 leading European experts provided strategic guidance on the scientific content and structure of the workshop.

Aim of the workshop: to identify knowledge gaps and prioritize issues to be tackled in the risk assessment area.

Main topics: Focus on Epidemiology, Methodologies and Control Options for the following viruses:

- **Norovirus**
- **Hepatitis A**
- **Hepatitis E**

Audience for the workshop: virologists, microbiologists, risk assessors but also risk managers and policy makers.

FSA-EFSA Foodborne viruses workshop

- The workshop took place on the 23-25th February 2016 at the Royal Society in London
- 119 expert participants attended the event (from 18 European Countries + Japan, Canada, USA and Chile)
- This event has delivered a clear picture of the most pressing research priorities for foodborne viruses but it has also created the environment for cooperation at National and International level, which we hope will continue

FSA-EFSA Foodborne viruses workshop

Day 1 – Setting the scene

Seven keynote speakers gave an overview on their research fields and their views on the most pressing research priorities



FSA-EFSA Foodborne viruses workshop

Day 2 – Working in break-out groups

Participants were divided in 7 break-out groups and asked to identify and rank the research priorities in their areas using the EFSA Knowledge Elicitation methodology



FSA-EFSA Foodborne viruses workshop

Day 3 – Conclusions and next steps

The research questions identified and ranked the previous day were discussed in a plenary session and a final vote identified the top research priorities for each virus.

Representatives from the EC presented possible ways of taking these research questions forward



.....

Key priorities identified by this workshop

Norovirus

- Methods to evaluate Norovirus infectivity in control measures and food samples;
- How does finding norovirus in foodstuff relate to public health risk?

Hepatitis A

- Implementation of advanced methods to identify sources of Hepatitis A contamination and prioritising risk factors from the food supply chain for shell fish & produce to inform risk assessment;
- Methods to evaluate infectivity in control measures and food samples;

Hepatitis E

- Development and validation of direct and indirect methods for assessment of Hepatitis E infectivity;
- What is the burden of hepatitis E in human populations in Europe?

FSA-EFSA Workshop - Feedback

How useful did you find the workshop overall?

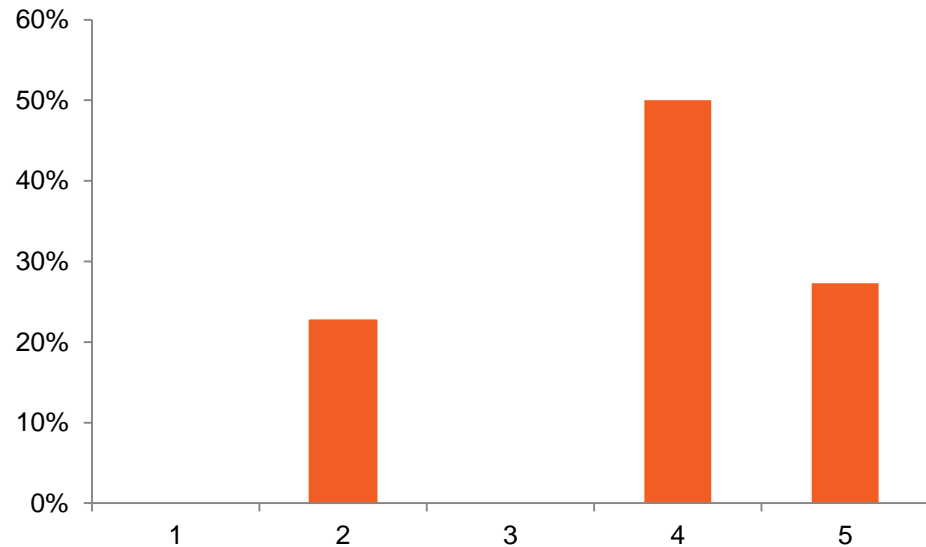
5 - Extremely useful

4 - Very useful

3 - Somewhat useful

2 - Not so useful

1 - Not at all useful



FSA-EFSA Workshop - Feedback

How well did the prioritization exercise work?

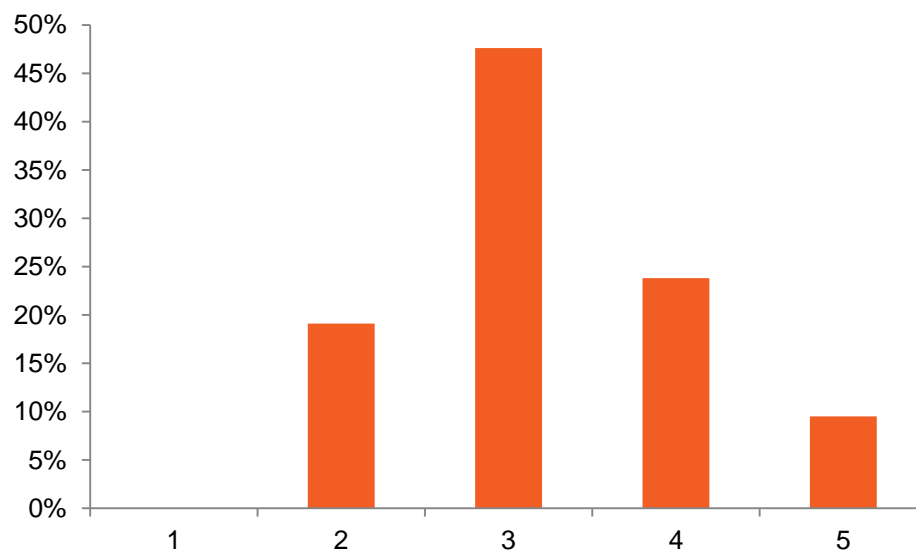
5 - Extremely well

4 - Very well

3 - OK

2 - Not well

1 - Not at all



FSA-EFSA Workshop - Feedback

How well organized was the workshop?

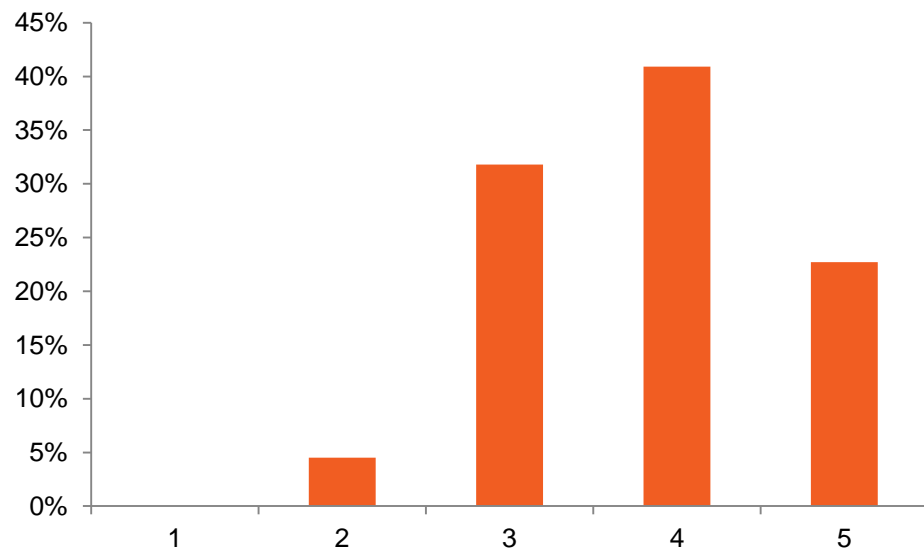
5 - Extremely well

4 - Very well

3 – Somewhat well

2 - Not so well

1 - Not at all



FSA-EFSA Workshop - Feedback

How would you rate the venue/location?

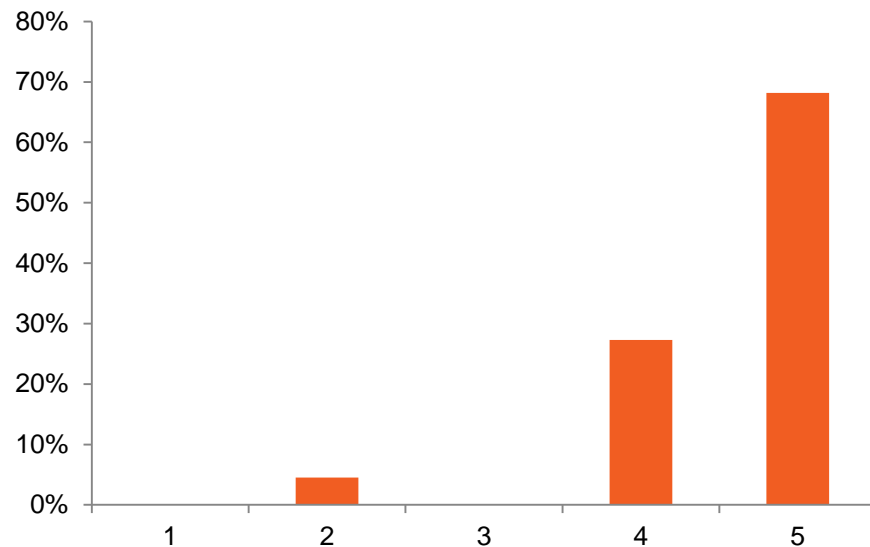
5 - Excellent

4 - Very good

3 - Good

2 - Fair

1 - Poor



Conclusions

- Overall a very successful event
- Useful feedback on possible ways to adapt further the Expert Knowledge Elicitation methodology for this type of events
- Great example of partnership working to ensure food safety



Thank you!