Proposal Subject FDA Policy Statement on the "Consumption of Raw Oysters"

Specific NSSP Guide Reference NSSP Policy Setting Documents Chapter VI. FDA Policy Statement Paragraph 3

Text of Proposal/ Requested Action "Certain medically compromised individuals are at increased risk from common marine *vibrio* bacteria that are unrelated to pollution. Therefore, it may not be possible to address this risk through environmental controls. Although the reported number of illnesses and fatalities from these bacteria in the United States each year is small in comparison with other food borne illnesses, the best advice for medically compromised individuals is to eat **shellfish that have** been processed for added safety if the process reduces the levels of all pathogens of public health concern to safe levels for the at risk population or, eat molluscan shellfish fully cooked or, not to eat raw molluscan shellfish."

cooked org

Public Health Significance This new USFDA policy setting language for the consumption of raw oysters will confirm the use of labeling allowed for PHP shellfish listed in Chapter XVI. This new policy statement language will show the FDA supports PHP's and that medically compromised individuals can choose safer post harvest processed shellfish rather than consume other raw shellfish that has not undergone a PHP and/or eat shellfish fully cooked.

Cost Information (if available)

None

Action by 2005 Task Force III Recommended no action on Proposal 05-309.

Rationale - The proposal was addressed by Task Force III action on Proposal 05-308 and is outside the authority of the Conference.

Action by 2005 General Assembly

Adopted recommendation of 2005 Task Force III.

Action by USFDA

Concurred with Conference action.