



ORA Data Exchange (ORA DX)

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The Partnership for Food Protection (PFP) Information Technology Workgroup (IT WG) recently had the opportunity to catch-up with Julie Vosilus, Kansas City District (State Liaison), Office of Human and Animal Foods Operations (OHAFO) Division II West, ORA, FDA for *Coffee Talk* about the ORA DX.



Tell us about yourself and your role on the ORA DX project.

I am a state liaison for the Kansas City District/HAF W II and support Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. I primarily work with Iowa and the Nebraska Food program. My role for the ORA DX project has been to try to serve as a technical advisor as to how the states could use the system and what data sharing capabilities FDA could make available to the states.



How does your background add to your participation in the PFP?



Serving as a state liaison, I get to see both sides of the fence and working with the ORA DX has offered an opportunity to see into the future and how it could be. We have states that provide access to their systems, so it's hopeful to think we are developing something that could offer more than what the states currently have access.



Has your participation in the PFP been a benefit to your FDA role and responsibilities?



My participation in PFP has been one of unlimited opportunities. It certainly provided a look behind the curtain of all the passionate people involved to improve food safety. Because of that, my involvement has probably made me a better state liaison.



What are some of the benefits or advantages of the DX that you would like to share with the states you support?



Certainly, some of the advantages of the DX is the potential to cut back on duplicate entry into a state system and then again into eSAF (FDA system). The DX will be offering more than what's available in eSAF and you won't know the difference until you try it.



Looking ahead, is there any particular functionality you would like to see in DX for State Liaisons or Field Management (District Directors and Program Division Directors)?



Where do I start...I think the data exchange offers the potential for more than just a data exchange but a true state portal. I think the ability to upload documents will be great. Then the ability to turn cases over into the CMS (FDA system) or create FMD 145 letters in CMS. It would be helpful if all the inspection protocols were available for them to use in the DX. States should be able to see firm responses to 483s, warning letters, etc.



Looking ahead, is there any particular functionality you would like to see in DX for state(s) you support?



Honestly, I'm looking at this system to help meet many of the requests that we receive. If I don't have to send something because the state already has access to it, then I've got a chance to catch up on some other things.



What is your advice for states considering DX?



This is definitely the way of the future and is something you should seriously consider. There's a lot of potential and you will miss out if you don't look further.



Any additional DX support, the state(s) you support could have received from FDA during the process of adopting DX?



I think in the beginning, it wasn't really clear what the system could do and what it couldn't do, but I think we're in a better spot now. So more info provided upfront would be helpful.



Is there anything unique about the DX experience of the state(s) you support that you would like to share (e.g., the state experienced a hurricane during project development)?



Our state experienced a wide range of staff turnover and struggled with their own contractor when trying this out, but I think now the path forward looks much smoother.

The PFP IT WG thanks Julie Vosilus and her team for their support of the ORA Data Exchange (DX) program and the PFP. We look forward to continued collaboration with HAF Division II West on expanding the ORA DX program.

For questions or information about the ORA DX program or the PFP IT WG, contact us at NFSDX_Info@fda.hhs.gov.



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