



Animal
Food & Feed
Edition

PARTNERSHIP FOR FOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WORKGROUP NEWSLETTER



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COFFEE TALK WITH ERIC NELSON



The PFP IT WG recently had the pleasure of catching up with Eric Nelson, Senior Advisor to FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) leadership for a coffee talk about the ORA Data Exchange (DX) program.

Read about Eric's role and interesting perspective of the ORA DX program on [page 4](#). The full Coffee Talk article is available on the [PFP website](#).



ORA DATA EXCHANGE (DX) RELEASE 19.0

ORA Partners Portal (ORAPP) – Regulatory partners can:

- access ORAPP via a new required 2-step Multifactor Authentication (MFA) log in process, due to HHS security policy
- learn more about ORAPP MFA via the new ORAPP Security Overview Knowledge Article (KA) available on the KA page
- learn more about ORAPP MFA via the updated ORAPP Overview e-Learning course available on the Training menu
- access an updated list of values for County via the Inventory and Inspection data sharing capabilities

System-to-System

– Regulatory partners can:

- access an updated list of values for County via the Inventory and Inspection data sharing capabilities

For more information regarding current and prior ORAPP and S2S DX releases, [read more on the ORAPP About page](#), under the Recent Releases section.

"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened." – Anatole France



Spotlight on Atlanta Human and Animal Food Laboratory

The FDA's Office of Human and Animal Food Laboratory Operations (OHAFL) oversees eight laboratories and associated programmatic staff. OHAFL provides oversight on scientific issues and laboratory analysis related to the chemical and microbiological analysis of human and animal food. It works with appropriate FDA centers and other stakeholders to establish and execute strategic and tactical plans for the effective use of science resources in ORA.

CHEMISTRY

The [Atlanta Human and Animal Food Laboratory's](#) (ATLHAF) Chemistry Laboratory has three supervisory groups with analytical capabilities in chemotherapeutics (i.e., drug residue detections) in products of animal origin. These include residues in seafood, honey, and milk. In addition, the lab analyzes food to detect mycotoxins (e.g., fumonisins, aflatoxins, patulin, ochratoxin, vomitoxin), food and color additives, filth and sanitation (entomology/insect parts), and performs sensory analyses to detect decomposition as well as chemical analyses to detect indices of decomposition in seafood.

MICROBIOLOGY

ATLHAF's Microbiology Laboratory has four supervisory groups equipped to perform the full range of microbiological analyses on products regulated by FDA: food, drugs, cosmetics, feed, and medical devices.

To learn more about ATLHAF Microbiology, and its Program and Specialized Capabilities, view their [website](#).



The [Partnership for Food Protection \(PFP\)](#) is a group of dedicated professionals from Federal, State, and Local governments with roles in protecting the food supply and public health. PFP is the structure used to coordinate representatives with expertise in food, feed, epidemiology, laboratory, animal health, environment, and public health to develop and implement an [Integrated Food Safety System, \(IFSS\)](#).

The goal of the [PFP IT WG](#) is to provide a collaborative information technology (IT) vision and approach for sustainable, uniform electronic data exchange for national Integrated Food Safety System (IFSS) partners.

Save
the
Date



**Next PFP IT WG
Meeting:
September 23, 2024**

"Animals are such agreeable friends – they ask no questions; they pass no criticisms." – George Eliot



Last Modified: 4/24/24

All 50 States Participating in ORA DX!

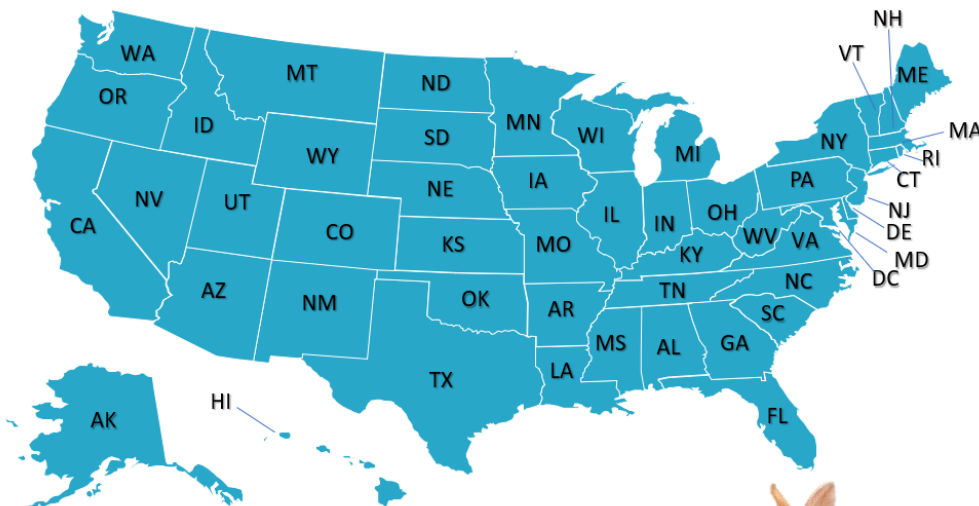
- 47 total states participating in PFP IT WG or Sample WG
- 75 partner agencies participating in ORAPP
- 23 partner agencies participating in System-to-System or Enhanced DX Client
- In certain cases, there is more than one partner/agency per state
- Some partners are in the process of onboarding

Fun Fact!



Baby rabbits are called 'kittens'

ORA DX Tech Talk: Regulatory Partner Participation



CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

We are pleased to announce that with the onboarding of **South Dakota** for Firm Search (FS) and Firm History (FH), we now have **ALL 50 STATES** participating in the ORA Data Exchange (DX)!

South Dakota had not previously had a [20.88 Agreement](#) in place, which prevented them from receiving ORA Partners Portal (ORAPP) access.

More on the ORA DX...

Are you interested in learning more about the ORA DX? Visit [ORAPP](#) for the latest!

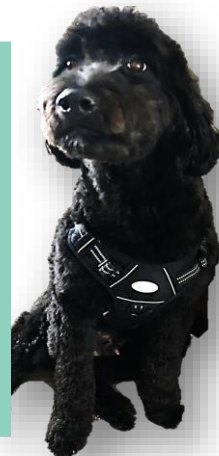
ORA DX Resources:

[ORA DX One Pager](#)
[ORA DX on ORAPP](#)
[ORA DX Program Overview](#)
[ORA DX FAQs](#)



Abbey, Barbara Cassens, Director, Office of Partnerships' "purr pal," tearing up toilet paper during 2020 COVID – a time when toilet paper was scarce. Barbara picked up the pieces and used it anyway!

Dobby, Omari Fennell, ORA DX Outreach Coordinator's "fur family member," is an Aussie-Goldendoodle. Dobby has been challenged to numerous races up the stairs and remains the undefeated champ!



"I think having an animal in your life makes you a better human." – Rachel Ray

COFFEE TALK



Coffee Talk with Eric Nelson

Senior Advisor to
Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) Leadership,
U.S. Food and Drug Administration, FDA

Continued from page 1

Hello, Eric! Tell us about yourself, and your new role and responsibilities as State Program Champion within the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM).

In my current role as senior advisor to Animal Food Program leadership, I provide insight and guidance to enhance our existing FDA and state partnerships, as well as explore new opportunities to make a stronger [Integrated Food Safety System \(IFSS\)](#). I believe I have a unique perspective given my experiences with CVM, the [Association of American Feed Control Officials \(AAFCO\)](#), the industry, and state program management. State programs are the regulatory face that industry sees.



Ziggy, the Nelson family pet, their cute little Yorkshire "Terrorist." Eric has been a lifelong dog person, since he was a kid and brought home a stray and convinced his parents to let him keep her.

What are the primary objectives of the Animal Food Regulatory Data Exchange (AFRDX)?

The main goals of the AFRDX are to support the management of animal food programs through the dynamic use of current inventory reconciliation and the application of risk-informed work planning.

Share some of the notable challenges with collaboration of animal food programs and how they connect with public health and safety. Share your favorite success story.

The emergence of [Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy \(BSE\)](#) in the early part of the 21st century presented opportunities that most animal food regulators had not fully embraced, direct connection between animal food and human health. Until then, the focus of many animal food programs had been consumer protection and managing the risk presented by medicated feed and concerns with drug residues in eggs, meat, and milk. Collaboration between FDA, the [United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#), AAFCO, and state programs resulted in the implementation of one of the most successful regulatory efforts of the past few decades. Literally, overnight state programs changed their focus from consumer protection to public health protection. This enabled additional attention and resources both on the state level as well as federal-level FDA contracts and grants.

The PFP IT WG would like to thank Eric for his support of the ORA DX program. For more on Eric's insight, continue reading the rest of the conversation [on the PFP site!](#)

Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM)

DID YOU KNOW?

The mission statement for FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is, **"Protecting Human and Animal Health."**

To learn more about CVM, read interesting articles [HERE](#).

Fun Fact!



The heftiest parrot weighs as much as a cat.



"Even the tiniest poodle is lionhearted, ready to do anything to defend home, master, and mistress." – Louis Sabin



ORA DX Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Question: Does a regulatory partner require agreements to participate in the ORA DX program?

Answer: Yes. The Long-Term Food, Feed and Cosmetics 20.88 agreement is required to participate in the ORA DX program. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) are required to participate in the System-to-System, along with a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) for uploading attachments.

Question: How does participation in the ORA DX program help a regulatory partner?

Answer: Participation in the ORA DX program provides a regulatory partner with the improved information sharing capabilities with the FDA. At a minimum, it eliminates dual data entry in the State's system and the FDA's system and challenges associated with the related data updates. ORAPP is envisioned to be the centralized and comprehensive portal for all the electronic data exchange between regulatory partners and the FDA. Additional FDA data that will benefit a regulatory partner may be made available to partners in the future.



Parakeets have as many as 3,000 feathers on their bodies!



Fun Fact!

ORA DX Training Highlights

The ORA DX Training Team has been busy developing new Knowledge Articles (KAs) and updating current e-Learning courses.

Knowledge Articles:

- ORAPP Security Overview (NEW)
- ORA DX Training Overview (Updated)
- ORA DX Training Resources (Updated)



e-Learning Courses:

- ORA DX Overview: ORAPP Overview (Updated)

Instructor-led courses are still available on an ad-hoc basis. Be sure to check out the ORA DX [Training page](#) to learn more about all [e-Learning courses](#) and to catch up on the newest [Knowledge Articles](#).

Resources and Useful Information

[Contact Us via ORAPP](#)

[PFP Strategic Plan](#)

[PFP IT WG Page](#)

[PFP Website](#)

[ORA Partners Portal \(ORAPP\)](#)

The FAQs for the ORA DX program may be updated with every ORA DX release. For additional ORA DX FAQs [read more . . .](#)



Tony and Heidi chillaxing at home with their best pal Barbara Thiel, PFP IT WG PM.

"Be the person your dog thinks you are." – C.J. Frick

Safety Tips for Pet Food and Treats











No Bones About It: Bones are Unsafe for Your Dog

Lincoln, Marcie Leggett, PFP IT WG Team Member's "fur buddy" is a Yorkshire Terrier/Maltese.

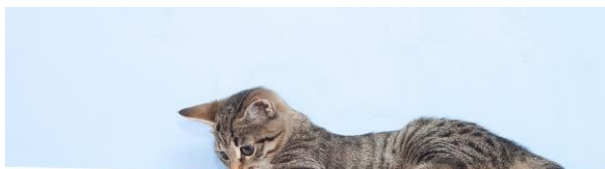
He's been affectionately nicknamed "**Abe**" by the IT WG team, and his beautiful copper colored coat resembles a penny.



The Risks:

-  Broken Teeth
-  Mouth Injuries
-  Choking
-  Intestinal Blockage
-  Constipation
-  Rectal Bleeding
-  Infections
-  Death

A Word About Cats...



Why the focus on dogs? Sources say that cats are far pickier eaters than dogs and do not often get into trouble by eating foods that will harm them. They add, however, that cats are super-sensitive to onions, garlic, and onion and garlic powders, so make sure your cat has no opportunity to eat foods made with these ingredients.

An article shared on the [FDA's Consumer Updates page](#), in 2010, outlined

a host of reasons to never give your dog bones to chew on or eat. **No bones of any type.** Not raw bones, not cooked bones, not poultry bones. Just no bones at all. The risks are too great. Learn more about foods topping the list, that are bad for your dog – and *why* the focus is on dogs vs cats, on [FDA's Consumer Update: Good Dog, Bad Food](#).

DID YOU KNOW?



"Money can buy you a fine dog, but only love can make him wag his tail." – Kinky Friedman