

Introduction to Food Safety Risk Management

Risk Management in the context of food safety is- the process of weighing policy alternatives to control risks as effectively as possible. Risk managers are the decision makers. Success in risk management means arriving at practical and useful solutions to problems that are often plagued by uncertainty. Risk managers begin and end all risk analysis activities, they are responsible for the risk analysis process.

This course is about getting to the final decision. It is designed not just for decision makers but also for all those who will work with decision makers.

It is strongly recommended that this course be taken **after** you have completed the Overview of Risk Analysis course. The Overview course provides contextual information about risk analysis that is not repeated here.

Overview of Topics

<p>Paradigms and How We Think About Things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Risk Manager’s Role ● The Power of the Paradigm ● What Influences Thinking ● How We Reason ● Risk Analysis as a Paradigm 	<p>Risk Management Frameworks and Models</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Defining Risk Management ● Risk management principles ● Categories of risk management activities ● Domestic and International Models ● The U.S. FDA Framework
<p>Getting the Question Right</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Decision-Making Principles ● Distinguishing Problems from Opportunities ● Objectives and Constraints ● Question Hierarchy ● Risk Profiles 	<p>Making Sense of Numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dealing with Variability and Uncertainty ● Decision Making under Uncertainty ● What Managers must know about the Risk Assessment Model
<p>Risk Management Options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Simple Decision Rules ● Multiple Objective Decisions ● Multi-criteria Decision Support Model ● Trade-offs ● Marginal Principle ● Sources of Management Alternatives 	<p>Interactions Between Assessors and Managers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordination and Cooperation ● Purpose of a Risk Assessment ● Benchmarking RM Practices ● Characteristics of Good and Poor Teams

Learning Objectives

After completing this course, students can

- Describe the risk manager’s role in risk analysis
- Describe two principle risk management models
- Discuss decision making under uncertainty
- Write a problems and opportunities statement
- Write an objectives and constraints statement
- Write a questions statement
- Identify elements of a risk profile
- Distinguish concepts of uncertainty and variability and their importance in decision making
- Identify several key properties of a good risk characterization
- Use brainstorming for option formulation
- Distinguish the evaluation, comparison, and selection steps
- Discuss the economist’s view of making choices
- Distinguish between the monitoring, evaluation, and modification steps
- Define food safety management objectives
- List several techniques for engaging stakeholders
- Define the team process for risk analysis

This course meets a requirement of the JIFSAN Core Certificate in Food Safety Risk Analysis.