Microbiological Testing for Validation and Verification

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Microbiological testing provided data for:

- Risk assessment
- Incident investigation
- Product acceptance
- Trend analysis
Validation: Does the Control Work?
Validation

• Provides evidence that control measures, when properly implemented, can control the hazard to a specified outcome.

Photo provided by: KMJ Swanson
Validation Versus Verification

Validation
- Evidence that the control measure will control the hazard

Verification
- Evidence that the control measure is operating as intended
Targeted Sampling for Microbiological Testing

- Ingredients
- In-process
- Environment
- End product
Verification Testing Examples

• Available in English at:
Conclusions

• **Validation** demonstrates controls are effective
• **Verification** demonstrates controls are implemented as intended
• **For many types of food**, both are essential to control significant hazards in food

For more information, see [www.icmsf.org](http://www.icmsf.org)