Analysis on the Problems of Food and Drug Safety and Suggestions

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Abstract. Hunger breeds discontentment, food to safety first. As a matter of social livelihood of food and drug safety issues, caused wide public concern and discussion. Based on the statistical data of basic public service satisfaction network survey, the public satisfaction of food and drug was the lowest, food and drug safety had become people’s most concerned, the most urgent need to address the difficulties and obstacles in the public sphere. Based on this, this paper discussed the reasons for the low satisfaction of the public on food and drug safety, and put forward the corresponding countermeasures and suggestions, to comprehensively and effectively improve the level of food and drug safety and security.

Introduction

Food and drug safety is a major issue related to people's livelihood. People's health and life safety as well as social harmony and stability are closely related to food and drug safety. At present, under the rapid promotion of social economy and science and technology development in China, the circulation pattern of production and supply chain in the food and drug industry has become prominent. The economic structure of food and drug has become more and more complicated, coupled with the influence of the virtual economy, people's ideas and stakeholders diversified, leading to more prominent problems of food and drug safety. In recent years, food and drug safety issues such as drainage oil, cadmium rice, stained bread, and poisonous bean sprouts have caused the public's concern and hot discussion. Food and drug safety problem has become an important problem in daily life can’t be avoided.[1-3] How to deal with food and drug safety problems in recent years, and take corresponding measures to ensure that the public's diet and medication safety can be effectively protected, has become a very important, pressing and arduous task at this stage. To solve the food and drug safety issues and enhance the security level of food and drug safety, is the general trend and the common aspiration of the people.

Analysis of the Status of Food and Drug Safety in China

China's food and drug safety work has made strides since the reform and opening up. The level of food and drug safety is steadily improving.

The Overall Stability of Food Safety

According to the notification issued by the State Food and Drug Administration on food safety supervision and sampling inspection in 2017, the total pass rate of food in 2017 was 97.5%, which was basically the same as that in 2016. Among them, the samples of grain, oil, meat, eggs and milk were all higher than the average.[4]

One is the bulk daily consumer goods: food products, edible oils, fats and products, meat and eggs, fruits and vegetables, and other qualified sampling rate has reached more than 97.5%. Second, the qualified rate of infant formula milk powder sampling with high social attention is higher. Third, the qualified rate of large-scale manufacturing enterprises and business is 99% and 98.1% respectively, which is 1.5 and 0.6 percentage points higher than the overall qualified rate of 97.5%.
The General Stability of Drug Safety

In the recent three years, the unqualified rate of drug evaluation sampling in China has continuously dropped below 3.0% and remained stable. The reporting rate of adverse drug reactions (ADR) in millions of people has been close to the level of developed countries for many years. The situation of counterfeit drugs has also greatly improved, and the proportion of the amount of investigating cases of pharmaceutical industrial output value accounts for less than 1‰.\[5\] According to the 2017 national drug sampling inspection conference held in Chengdu in 2017 by the State Food and Drug Administration, 2017 will continue to follow the four requirements proposed in 2016 to steadily promote the drug inspection work. It involves increasing the intensity and coverage of sampling inspection, improving the ability to identify risks and problems, linking inspection and inspection, sampling inspection results into regulatory results, promoting information construction and improving the supervision level in the whole process of development, production, circulation and use of sampling inspection.

Analysis on the Problems and Causes of Food and Drug Safety

According to the data of "Basic Public Service Satisfaction Network Survey" made by Joint Task Force of Beijing Municipal Government Performance Management Research Center and Urban Research Institute of Beijing City University, the problems and causes of food and drug safety are analyzed.

The Most Unsatisfactory Food and Drug Safety Issues of the Public

Basic public service satisfaction network survey questionnaire adopts the "seven-point scale method" and respondents based on their own actual feelings in the 1-8 points for the score, 1 points for very dissatisfied, 8 for very satisfied. The public's overall satisfaction (basic satisfaction + satisfaction + very satisfied) with the basic public service safety component was 78.3%, in part involved in the community public safety and public security, public equipment safety, travel security, information security, public health safety, and food and drug safety in six areas, the public satisfied with the lowest level of food and drug safety (ie, the highest proportion of dissatisfied and very dissatisfied), and score below the average satisfaction of public safety, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Research group surveys show public satisfaction with public safety.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public safety</th>
<th>Average score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food and drug safety satisfaction</td>
<td>4.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health security satisfaction</td>
<td>4.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information security satisfaction</td>
<td>4.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel safety satisfaction</td>
<td>5.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public equipment safety satisfaction</td>
<td>5.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and public safety site satisfaction</td>
<td>5.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public safety overall satisfaction</td>
<td>5.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis of the Causes of Food and Drug Safety

Among the reasons for dissatisfaction\[6-8\] the three highest emergence options are improper management measures (48.7%), the impolitic implementation of the system (41.7%) and the insufficient implementation (41.5%), as shown in Table 2.
Table 2. Option ranking of the low satisfaction in public safety service (unit %).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option for the reason of low satisfaction</th>
<th>Option rate</th>
<th>Option ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Insufficient Implementation</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Improper management measures</td>
<td>48.7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Unscientific plan and decision</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Impolitic implementation of the system</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Officer’s dereliction of duty</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F No need for the public</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Insufficient credibility to the policy</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Not open information</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Insufficient supply quantity</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Too high price</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Unable to meet the need</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L Others</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Improper Management Measures—the Overall Vulnerability of the Public Safety Regulation System of Food and Drug in China. First, take a long regulation mode, that is, too many supervision departments in links of production, circulation, trading, inspection and others.

Second, there are all kinds of inevitable contradictions and conflicts between the various regulatory departments, with low regulatory effect.

Impolitic Implementation of the System—Legal Regulatory Tools Are Not Perfect. First, the existing law lacks system integrity and maneuverability. At present, many laws and regulations on food and drug safety and judicial interpretation take subsection legislation, whose terms are relatively scattered, and provisions are relatively more general.

Second, the current law lacks of enforcement and deterrence, which is unable to constrain regulators and illegal businessman.

Insufficient Implementation—Lack of Standardization and Persistence in Regulatory Law Enforcement with Limited Effect. First, China's food and drug industry doesn’t have clear property rights, leading to enterprise not giving full play to the positive initiatives of self-regulation.

Second, the obstructed information channels and unsound information transmission mechanism in China's food and drug market cause the public spending too much in getting food and drug safety information, and cannot stop enterprise taking risks.

Third, China's current food and drug safety lacks of credibility. As a result, enterprises cannot help their interests and tempt the market, violating the principle of good faith. Some major food and drug safety incidents have been repeatedly banned.

Countermeasures and Suggestions to Improve the Security Level of Food and Drug Safety

It has become a major and urgent task to comprehensively and effectively improve the security level of food and drug safety. The importance of food and drug safety is in the supervision, mainly from the following aspects.\[9-13\]

Design a More Rational and Efficient Regulation Coordination Mechanism—"Integrated Regulation"

The integration model can be divided into two forms: procedural and nonprocedural coordination mechanism. Among them, proceduralization is centered on rules and authority; non proceduralization is based on trust and cooperation. Both of them play the role of regulation, inseparable and mutual influence, so as to solve all kinds of contradictions and conflicts in the regulation of food and drug public safety. In the regulation mode, the traditional way is to rely solely on the strength of the government, but in practice, it has exposed many drawbacks and limitations, such as too high cost, poor effect and too much risk. So, in addition to strengthening the government in legislation, law enforcement, judicial and other areas of the function, in the development of the market economy at the same time, the government encourage participation of stakeholders, participation in product related to
food and drug companies, consumers and the public and the third sector social media multi subject, the formation of pluralistic governance mode, rational distribution right, so as to realize the relative balance of the social demand and of system supply.

**The Most Direct and Effective Way to Improve the Safety of Food and Drug - Increase the Cost of Punishment**

To increase efforts to deal with the food and drug selling counterfeit and other major cases, the offenders transferred to judicial organs. Of course, not only by the mandatory constraints of external forces, but also by promoting enterprises to become bigger and stronger, carrying out standardized production and operation, strengthening the awareness of social responsibility of food and drug industry and enterprises, and weakening their opportunist tendencies. At the same time, the food and drug industry association should timely conduct professional training and safety education for members in the industry, and provide the latest data information to the government and the public at any time, as well as help to deal with unexpected food and drug safety incidents.

**Increase the Intensity of Food and Drug Inspection and Prevent Unqualified Products into the Market**

Strict investment in product management, strengthen the normative guidance. Increase the frequency of key variety sampling, and improve the coverage rate of food and drug inspection. Standardize and regulate the slaughter and management of livestock and poultry, establish and improve the prevention and control system of livestock and poultry diseases, prevent diseases and dead livestock from entering the slaughtering and processing of meat products, and improve the quarantine and inspection system of livestock and poultry products and the harmless treatment subsidy policy. Speed up the construction of product quality and safety tracking and supervision system, and strengthen the management of product packaging logo. We will highlight key varieties and key areas and carry out special campaigns.

**Summary**

China's food and drug safety problems emerge in an endless stream. Methanol alcohol, formalin seafood, melamine, clenbuterol, tainted steamed buns, plasticizer, genetically modified food, drug counterfeiting and so on, about safety problems on the tongue intensified, greatly challenge people's imagination and tolerance. The reason is a variety of internal and external many complex factors, multiple links lead to collusion. Food and drug safety is not simply due to the economic structure, from a certain perspective, the food and drug safety is also a problem of administrative regulation, at the same time, the food and drug safety is a social and political law system. In the process of specific governance, we should start from the overall system reform, and blindly increase the enforcement of the system is ineffective. It needs the public participation power of consumers in society and truly participates and radiates to other links beyond the food and drug regulatory enforcement through administrative, economic and legal channels. Only with the full participation of all members of society can be the solution to the food and drug safety issue that just come to an end. In a word, food and drug safety supervision still has a long way to go.

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**References**


