



# Collaborative Food Safety Forum - Scoping Workshop December 11, 2012

Dr. Regina Tan

Director, Applied Epidemiology Division

Office of Public Health Science

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Regina.Tan@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Regina.Tan@fsis.usda.gov)



# Proposed Agenda

- Bottom Line Up Front
- Foodborne Illness Investigations
  - Directive 8080.3
  - Anatomy of an investigation
  - Information-sharing opportunities
  - Example traceback
- Where information-sharing can help



# Bottom Line Up Front

- Partners in prevention
- Shared importance in safety of food
- Shared importance in consumer trust
- Always opportunities to improve
- Welcome conversations to do so

United States Department of Agriculture  
Food Safety and Inspection Service



# ILLNESS INVESTIGATIONS



# Directive 8080.3

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, DC

## FSIS DIRECTIVE

8080.3

11/17/08

### FOODBORNE ILLNESS INVESTIGATION

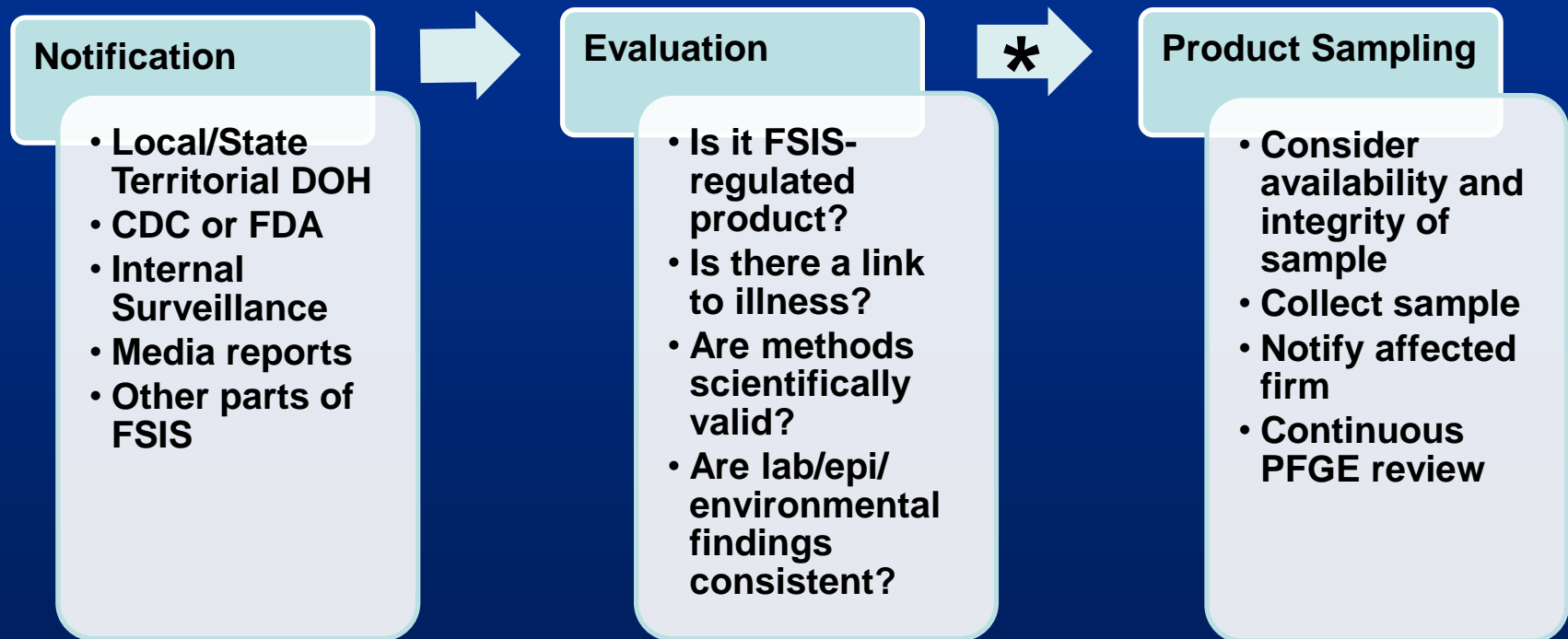
#### I. PURPOSE

- A. This directive instructs personnel from the (FSIS), Office of Public Health Science (OPHS), Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), Office of Food Safety and Inspection (OFSI), Office of Program Evaluation, and Office of Field Operations (OFO), and the actions they are to take when assisting in a foodborne illness investigation.
- B. This directive supplements, but is not intended to replace, the Consumer Complaint Monitoring System (CCMS) [5610.1](#).

#### Key Points :

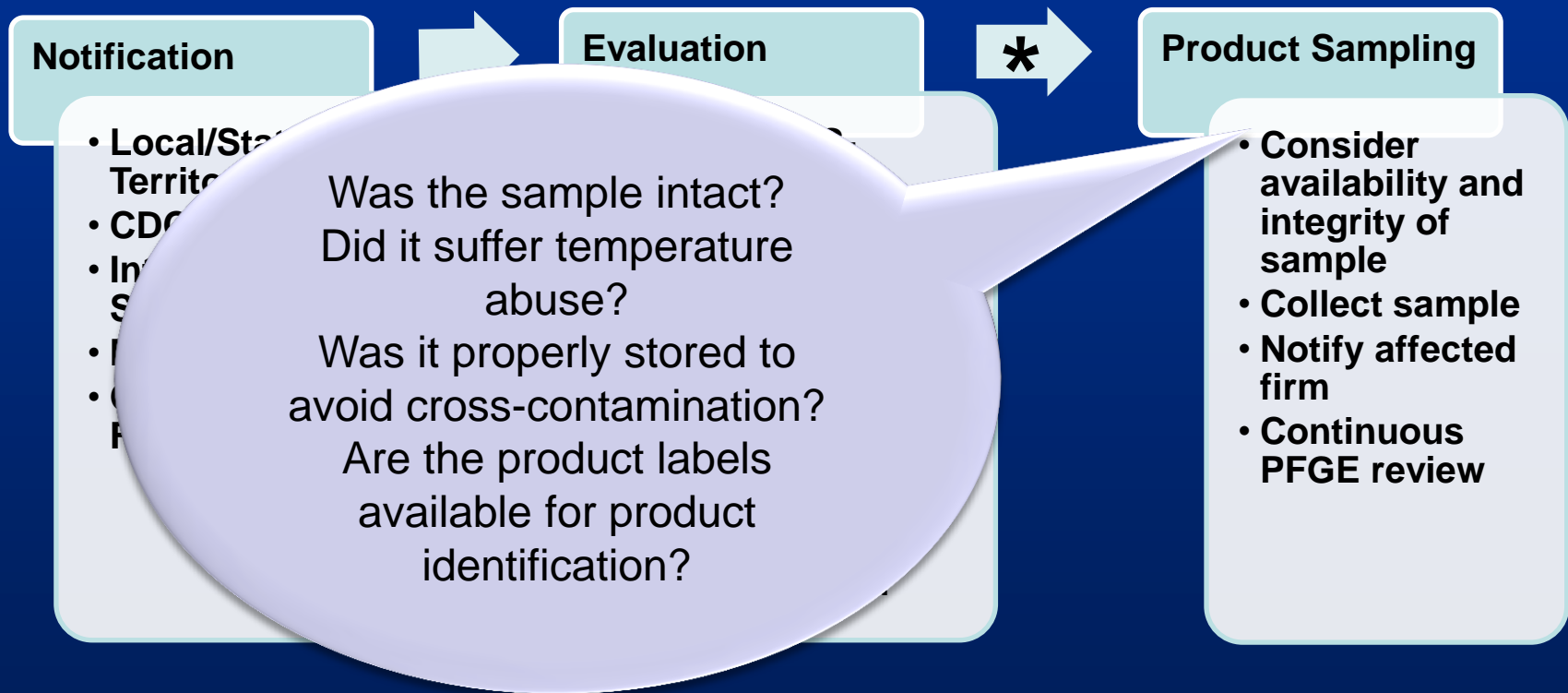
- Factors determining whether to submit a product sample
- Collecting, preparing, and shipping product samples
- Field activities during a foodborne illness investigation (Environmental assessment)
- Procedures for analyzing data
- Agency responses to the findings of a foodborne illness investigation

# Anatomy of an Investigation



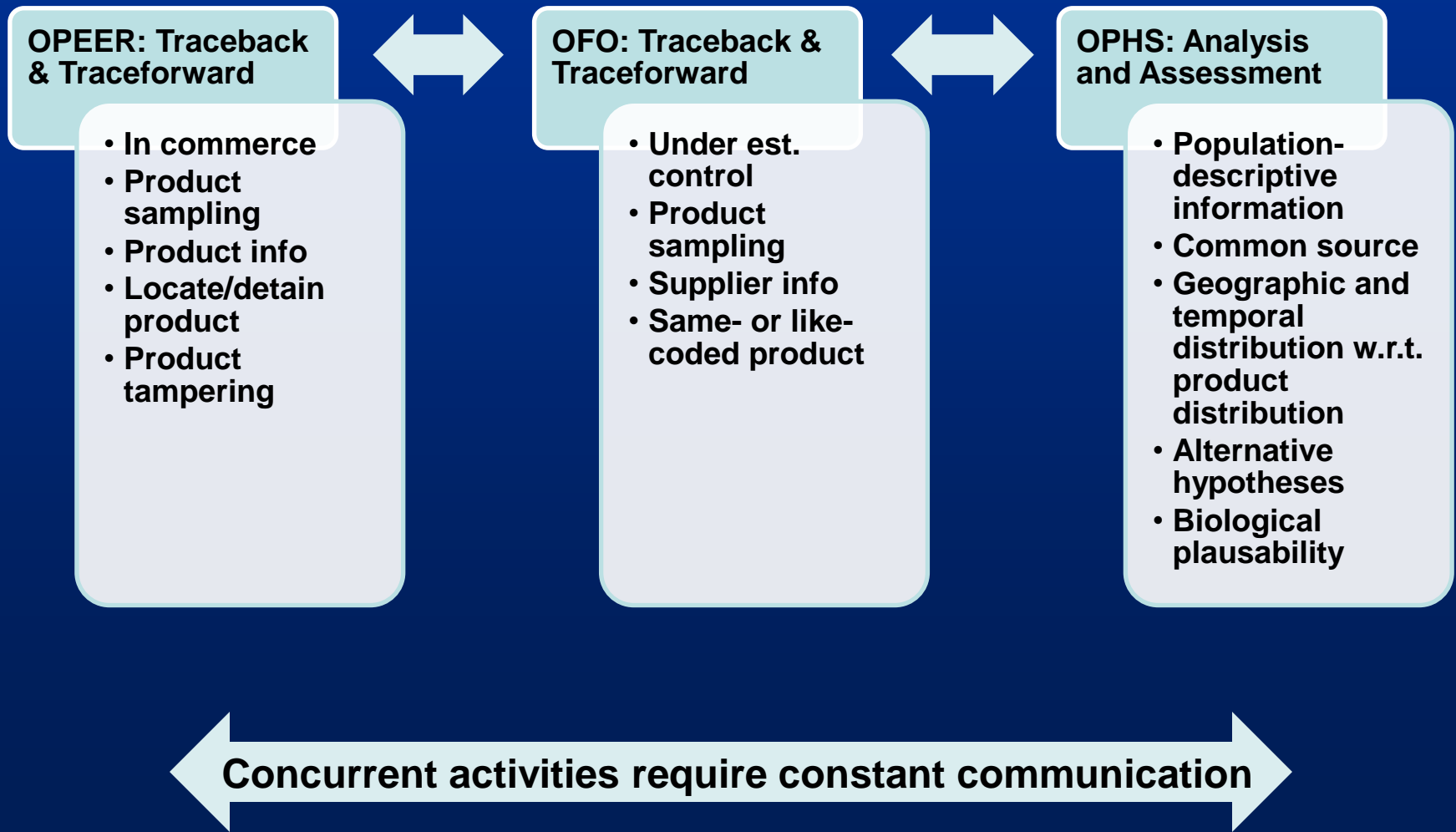
\*Initiate Investigation

# Anatomy of an Investigation



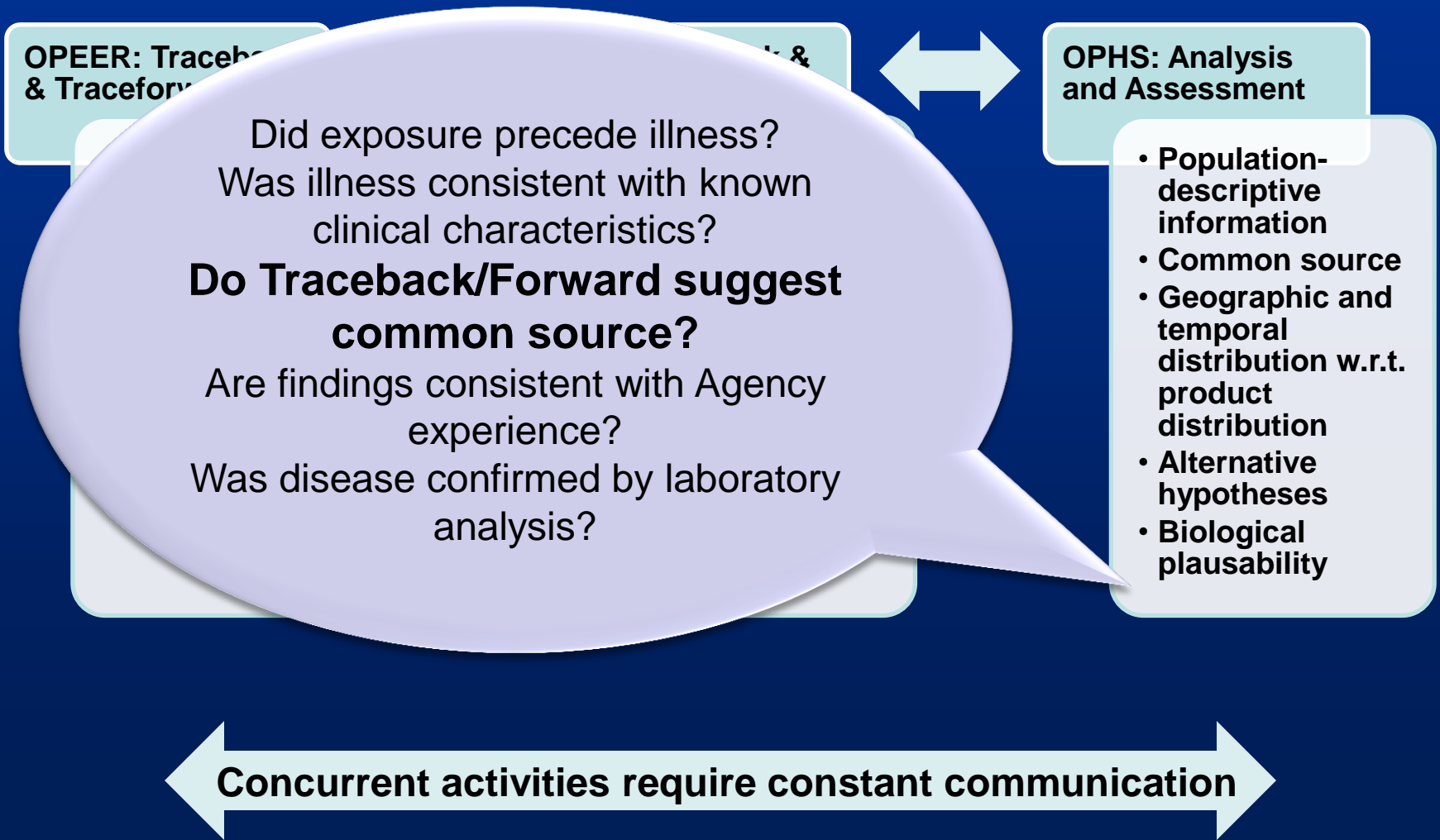
\*Initiate Investigation

# Anatomy of an Investigation



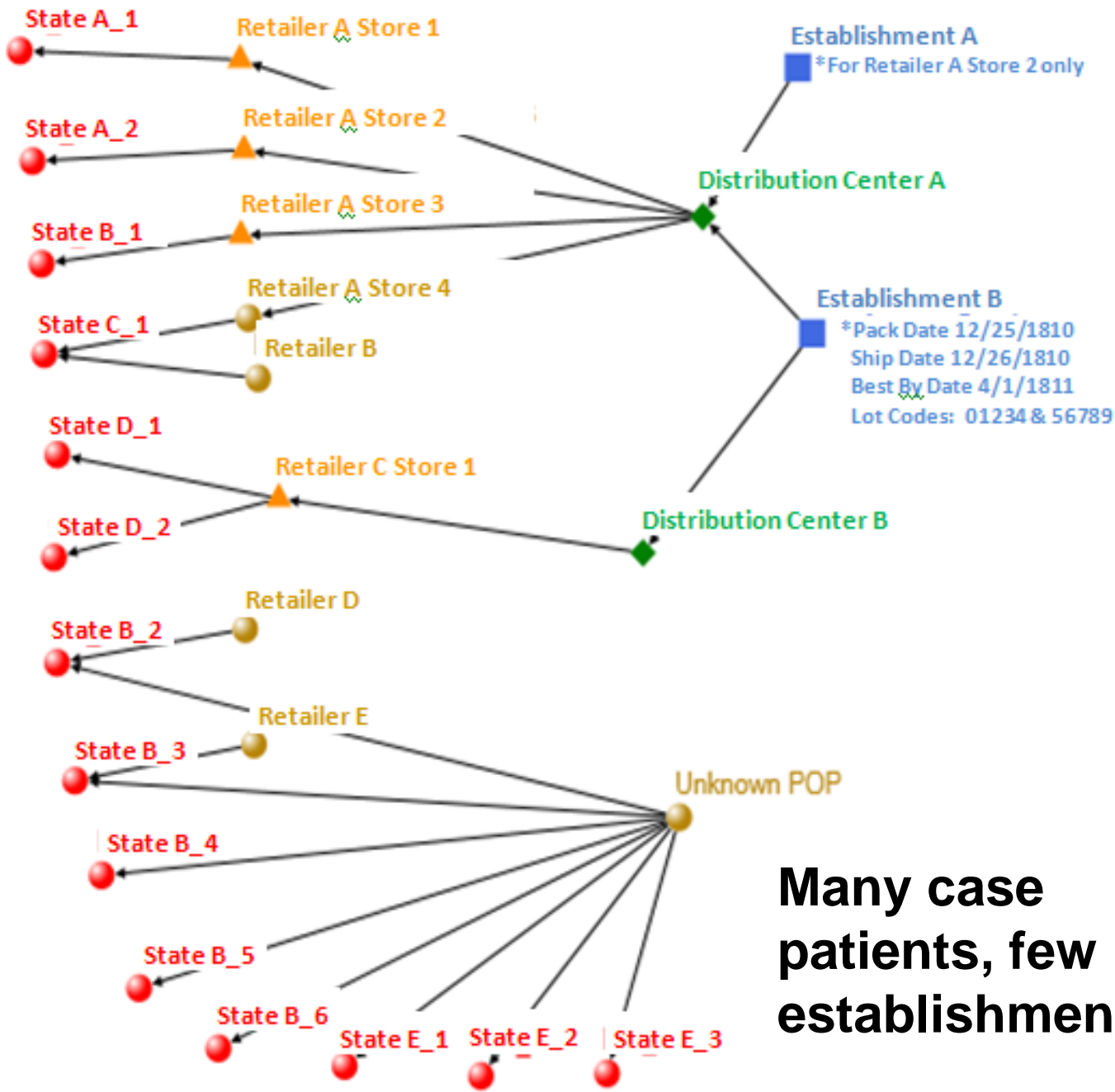


# Anatomy of an Investigation





# Example Traceback



Many case patients, few establishments



# WHERE CAN INFORMATION SHARING CAN HELP

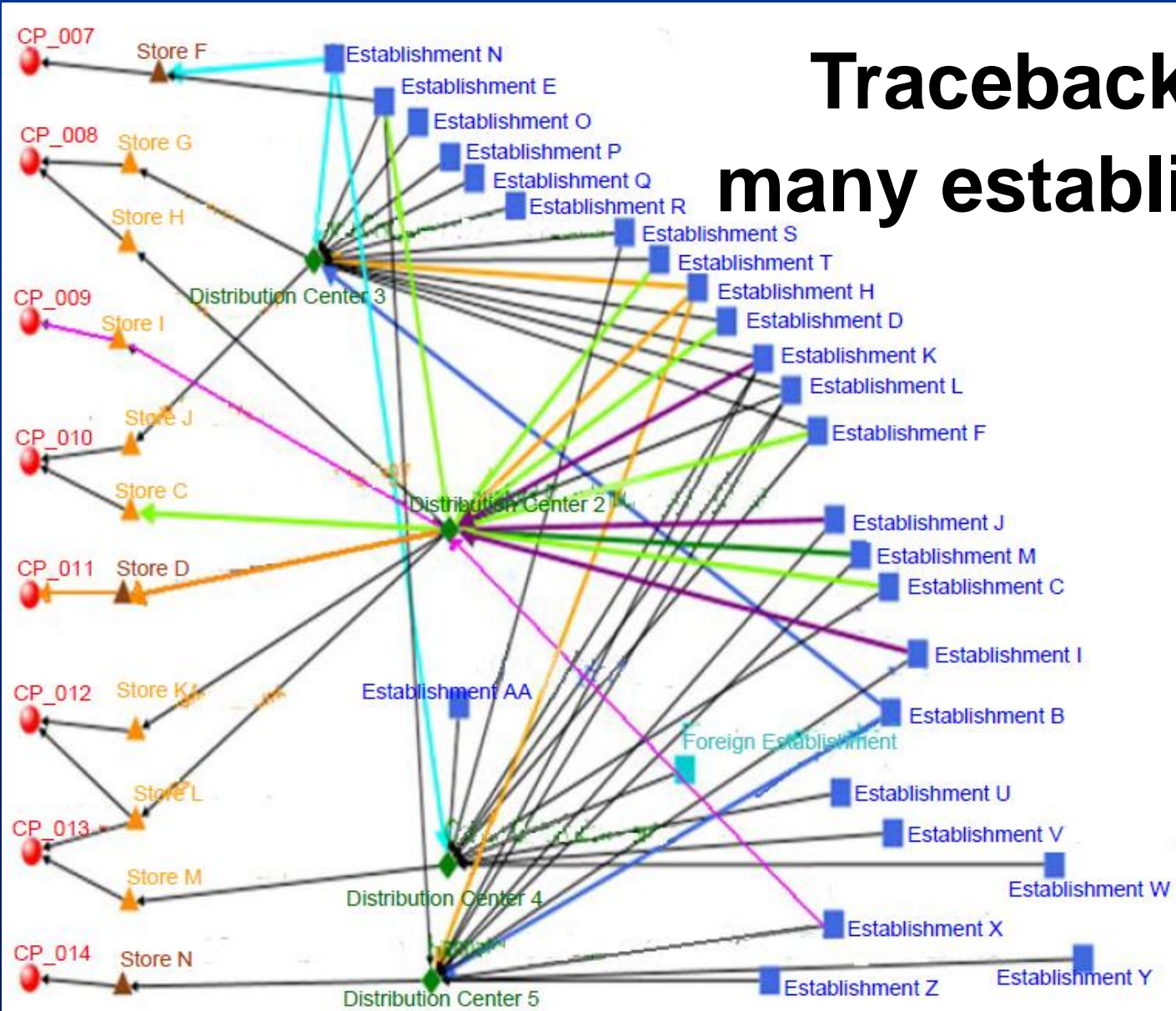


# Traceback leads to common distributor

- Epi and traceback lead to common distributor
- Distributor records important in identifying establishment
  - Suppliers
  - Shopper cards/sales records
  - Grinding logs
  - Facility maintenance records



# Traceback leads to many establishments



# Traceback identifies multiple products





## In Summary

- First step of conversation is establishing **where in the process the investigation is**, rather than what investigation findings are
- Single source may not yet be identified
- Industry information can help identify common source
- Source may be upstream to slaughter house