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# Epidemiology Workshops

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All workshops are tailored and personalized for our clients' needs and strategic outcomes.

# Epidemiology in Practice Surveillance and Response Training

Course adapted from University of South Florida, Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness, "FIRST" Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training

#### Course Aim:

Develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed from public health workers and community partners to assist in disease outbreak investigations and other epidemiologic surge capacity events.

#### Course Goals:

- Develop an increased awareness and knowledge of basic epidemiology.
- Develop capabilities of participants in an outbreak investigation during a bioterrorism (BT) event or other public health threat.
- Improve capacity of the local public health system to respond effectively during a BT event or other public health disaster.

## Target Audience:

- Public health workforce
- Outreach workers
- Nurses
- Physicians
- Administrators
- Health educators
- Students and personnel in a variety of settings
- Volunteers

## Course Objectives:

- **Module 1:** Understand the role of epidemiology in public health practice through key terms, core concepts and processes of epidemiology.
- **Module 2:** Demonstrate appropriate epidemiological interviewing and effective communication skills.
- **Module 3:** Know the steps of an outbreak investigation and how to implement as part of an outbreak team.

# Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals

- Analytical/Assessment Skills Domain, the related competencies are: 1A1, 1A2, 1A8, 1A10, 1A11
- **Policy Development/Program Planning Skills**, the related competencies are: 2A2, 2A5, 2A6, 2A7, 2A8, 2A9, 2A10
- Communication Skills Domain, the related competencies are: 3A1, 3A2, 3A3, 3A4, 3A6, 3B1, 3B6, 3C7.
- Cultural Competency Skills Domain, the related competencies are: 4A1, 4A2, 4A3.
- Community Dimensions of Practice Skills, the related competencies are: 5A1, 5A3, 5A4,5A7, 5A8
- **Public Health Science Skills Domain**, the related competencies are: 6A4, 6A5, 6A7, 6A8, 6A9
- **Financial Planning and Management Skills**, the related competencies are: 7A3, 7A7, 7A8, 7A10, 7A11.
- Leadership and Systems Thinking Skills Domain, the related competencies are: 8A1, 8A2, 8A7

# Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (FIRST)

Course initially offered from the University of South Florida, Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness and Leadership, HCC, Inc. Consultants will update this course for clients' needs and outcomes.

#### Description

To help public health workers develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to assist in disease outbreak investigations during times of heightened demand when staff capacity is overburdened.

#### Goals

To help public health workers develop an increased awareness and knowledge of basic epidemiology.

To increase the number of public health workers capable of participating in an outbreak investigation during a bioterrorism (BT) event or other public health threat.

To improve the capacity of the county health department to respond effectively during a BT event or other public health disaster.

### Objectives

**Module 1:** Describe the role of epidemiology in public health.

- **Define** epidemiology's key terms and core concepts.
- Recognize the objectives of epidemiology in public health practice and describe your role.
- **Describe** how epidemiology is applied in the core processes of public health practice.
- **Describe** examples of the use and application of epidemiology.
- Apply the basic terms, concepts, and processes of epidemiology.

**Module 2:** Demonstrate appropriate epidemiological interviewing and effective communication skills.

- State the purpose of an interview.
- **Demonstrate** the use of effective interviewing techniques.
- **Describe** the concept of bias and how it influences interview results.
- **Describe** the importance of identifying unusual occurrences.
- **Demonstrate** appropriate cultural sensitivity, confidentiality, and ethics when interviewing.

**Module 3:** Participate in an outbreak investigation exercise.

- **Recognize** the steps in case investigation and in identifying exposed contacts.
- **Describe** how initial cases might be recognized.
- **Demonstrate** the ability to interpret fact sheets and mode of transmission sheets.
- **Describe** methods of collection and transportation of human, animal, and environmental samples.
- **Apply** skills necessary to demonstrate the ability to identify additional cases and determine the extent of a disease outbreak.

## Intermediate Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training (IFIRST)

Course initially offered from the University of South Florida, Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness and Leadership, HCC, Inc. Consultants will update this course for clients' needs and outcomes.

#### Description

To develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities of public health workers who may be deployed on Field Epidemiology Strike Teams in order to assist local, regional, state, and national epidemiology staff in disease investigations during surge capacity.

#### Training Outcomes

- Define terms and concepts associated with diseases and conditions.
- Design and/or modify field epidemiology surveys and questionnaires.
- Understand the procedures and protocols for sampling and packaging of clinical specimens.
- Be aware of the policies related to quarantine and isolation.
- Understand strategies for setting up an epidemiological field investigation surveillance system.
- Apply appropriate epidemiological interviewing skills.
- Understand the function and associated skills for field epidemiology investigation.
- Practice field epidemiology investigation interview skills.
- Understand the role of strike team members in a field investigation.
- Recognize role of strike team member in investigation of a suspected avian influenza outbreak.
- Practice adapting existing investigation worksheets to meet needs of current investigation.
- Understand the collection and packaging clinical samples.
- Practice interviewing index case to determine contacts.
- Practice interviewing contacts.

### Intermediate Field Investigator Response and Surveillance Training 2 (IFIRST2)

Course initially offered from the University of South Florida, Florida Center for Public Health Preparedness and Leadership, HCC, Inc. Consultants will update this course for clients' needs and outcomes.

#### Aim

To develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities of public health workers who may be deployed on Field Epidemiology Strike Teams in order to assist local, regional, state, and national epidemiology staff in disease investigations during surge capacity.

### **Training Outcomes**

- Understand the epidemiology of anthrax and plague, including incubation, symptoms, transmission, and prevention/treatment.
- Practice adapting existing investigation worksheets to meet the needs of the current investigation.
- Recognize the role of strike team members in investigation of a suspected anthrax or plague outbreak.
- Be aware of the protocols for collection and packaging of environmental samples.
- Be aware of the policies relating to isolation and quarantine.
- Understand the strategies for setting up an epidemiological field investigation surveillance system.
- Practice interviewing disease cases to find the source of infection.

## Managerial Epidemiology

This course combines the fundamentals of epidemiology and managerial leadership. This course utilizes epidemiological concepts, methods, case studies, data and other public health tools to improve decision making in the management of public health services.

#### Aim

To develop the knowledge, skills and abilities of public health workers who are in leadership roles for making data driven decisions. Managerial epidemiology is used to measure the effectiveness of newly revised processes and systems as they apply to population health.

## **Training Outcomes**

- Understand basic epidemiological concepts and principles.
- Understand population health by select health status indicators.
- Recognize the determinants of health: social, policy/political, economic, health services, individual behavior, and biology & genetics
- Provide an overview of epidemiological tools and data sources available to local public health.
- Apply the use of storytelling and empowering narratives with data.
- Apply managerial epidemiology principles in a tailored population health project to demonstrate competency in using data to make decisions.