Food as an Effective Weapon of Terrorism

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This course will address the reasons and logic, which would focus a terrorist attack on the food supply. The characteristics of the food supply chain will be examined and the links which expose themselves to interruption, explored. Countermeasures on the global/strategic level as well as on the local tactical level will be in the context of their utility and effectiveness. The nature and characteristics of specific bacterial and chemical agents will be examined and the specific clinical presentations of disease expounded. Specific procedural and operational countermeasures for preparation and/or attack response will be examined. The anticipated clinical course and prognosis of the specific disease agents in human or animal victims will be examined and therapeutic and remedial options explored. The topics covered in this course include:

Learning Objectives
- List reasons why the food supply is attacked
- Name areas of vulnerability in the food supply
- Describe countermeasures to food borne attacks
- Describe industry and governmental options for prevention and defense against food terrorism
- Explain Operational Risk Management (ORM) and its rules
- Describe Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Planning
- Explain the impact of a major attack on the food chain
- Identify multiple types of biologic agents used as food pathogens
- List possible treatments for specific food pathogens
- Identify multiple types of chemical agents used as food pathogens
- Explain the water supply protection

Competencies
- Recognize unusual events that might indicate an emergency and describe appropriate action (to activate response plan)
- Describe the public health role in emergency response in a range of emergencies that might arise.

* Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness

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