



## South Central Public Health Partnership

### TRAINING PROFESSIONALS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC

<http://lms.southcentralpartnership.org/scphp>

## Essentials of Designing and Evaluating Exercises and Drills to Enhance Public Health Emergency Preparedness

**Instructor:** Sue Ann Sarpy, MS, PhD

This course will present concepts related to developing, implementing, and evaluating exercises and drills for enhancing emergency preparedness and response of public health workers. In-class assignments and a discussion board will be used to address specific issues related to development, implementation, and evaluation of exercises and drills for public health workforce development. Further, the course will utilize an integrated approach to presenting information so that models from various disciplines, including emergency management and organizational training and development, will be incorporated in each of the topic areas. The topics covered in this course include:

### Learning Objectives

#### Module 1: Introduction

- Identify the objectives, materials, and requirements of the course

#### Module 2: Exercises and Drills Defined

- Describe the major components of a simulation exercise
- Explain the relevance of using exercise and drills in enhancing emergency preparedness and response of the public health workforce
- Discuss the current evidence base supporting the use of exercises and drills in enhancing capacity of the public health workforce

#### Module 3: Types of Exercises and Drills

- Define the major types of exercises and drills used for training and development purposes
- Compare and contrast the key characteristics of each type of exercise and drill
- Describe how each type of exercise and drill can be used to enhance preparedness and response of the public health workforce

#### Module 4: Planning and Developing Exercises and Drills

- Identify the major steps in planning and designing exercises and drills.
- Create a scope and purpose for an exercise or drill to enhance emergency preparedness of the public health workforce.
- Define objectives for an exercise or drill to enhance emergency preparedness of the public health workforce

#### Module 5: Public Health Example of Planning and Developing an Exercise

- Explain a comprehensive process used to plan and develop a tabletop exercise for public health workers and their external counterparts.

#### Module 6: Conducting Exercises and Drills

- Describe the components that are essential to conducting effective exercises and drills.
- Discuss the principles of adult learning and training that exercises and drills should follow.
- Explain a comprehensive process used to conduct a tabletop exercise for public health workers and their external counterparts.

#### Module 7: Evaluating

- Define evaluation including the purpose and uses of evaluation for exercises and drills
- Distinguish between the various types and sources of information gathered in evaluating exercises and drills
- Describe the levels of analysis in the evaluation process
- Discuss the reporting of results of the evaluation including the major components of the After Action Report

#### Module 8: Public Health Example of Evaluating an Exercise

- Review an evaluation plan for evaluating a mass flu vaccine dispensing exercise
- Identify the major evaluation components within the evaluation plan for a mass vaccine flu dispensing
- Identify the major evaluation components within the evaluation plan for a mass vaccine flu dispensing exercise

#### Module 9: Using Simulations to Study Team Dynamics

- Discuss the role of researchers in team training design
- Describe use of field simulations in data collection at the team level
- Discuss the use of behavioral observation techniques with video data

#### Module 10: Continuous Improvement Process

- Describe a systematic process for designing, implementing, and evaluating competency-based exercises and drills
- Explain the exercise cycle for exercise and drills
- Discuss the role of the exercise cycle in ensuring continuous improvement of emergency preparedness and response of the public health workforce

#### **Competencies**

- Describe his/her functional role(s) in emergency response and demonstrate his/her role(s) in regular drills
- Apply creative problem solving and flexible thinking to unusual challenges within his/her functional responsibilities and evaluate effectiveness of all actions taken

\* *Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness*

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