Public Health Preparedness and Leadership

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This course provides an overview to the role of leadership in public health preparedness. All of public health is about being prepared for any health related emergency. Public health leaders need to build their leadership capacity through learning new skills for crisis situations that are added to their non-emergency management and leadership skills. This course explores different types of crisis, systems and complexity thinking, application of the tipping point to leadership, change and adaptation, ecological leadership, new approaches to collaboration, public health law, risk and crisis communication, and emotional intelligence. The topics covered in this course include:

Learning Objectives
Module 1: Types of Crises
- Describe the similarities and differences between traditional and crisis leadership
- Distinguish the various types of crises
- Determine how different thinking preferences affect the reaction to a crisis

Module 2: Systems Perspective on Crisis
- Evaluate the pros and cons of linear versus systems thinking
- Distinguish different levels of reaction to a crisis using the Iceberg model
- Explain how to adjust your skills to changing agency program priorities

Module 3: The Tipping Point
- List and describe the three laws of the Tipping Point
- Determine how cultural dimensions impact the work of public health

Module 4: Change
- Describe the structure of resilience and its importance in emergency preparedness
- Determine the value of structural flexibility in decision-making
- Differentiate change and adaptation

Module 5: Dimensions of Crisis Leadership
- Compare the leadership programs with the concept of ecological leadership
- Determine if the bioterrorism competency framework relates to learning objectives or to skills that can be applied in a practice setting
- Evaluate the crisis situations in which collaboration will or will not occur
- Explain the differences between self and other emotional intelligence skills

Module 6: Communication Issues
- Differentiate the elements of risk communication and crisis communication
- Delineate the reasons why knowledge of the law is important for crisis leaders

Module 7: Summary

Competencies
- 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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