Bioterrorism Preparedness: Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Public Health Surveillance

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This course will introduce participants to basic concepts and terminology of infectious disease epidemiology and public health surveillance. Course topics include: key characteristics of microbial agents and their common modes of transmission; measures of association between disease and exposure; common study designs in observational research; sensitivity and specificity and its application to infectious disease diagnosis; types and sources of data, and uses of infectious disease surveillance systems. Nursing CEU’s will be available (7.2 contact hours). Social Work CEU’s will be available (6.0 contact hours).

Learning Objectives

- Define epidemiology and its uses
- Describe key characteristics of microbial agents and their common modes of transmission
- Understand measures of association between disease and exposure
- Identify common study designs in observational research
- Define sensitivity and specificity and its application to infectious disease diagnosis
- Describe the types, sources of data, and uses of infectious disease surveillance systems
- Become familiar with existing disease surveillance systems in the country

Competencies

- Describe the public health role in emergency response in a range of emergencies that might arise.
- Recognize unusual events that might indicate an emergency and describe appropriate action (e.g., communicate clearly within the chain of command.)

*Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness

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