



South Central Public Health Partnership

TRAINING PROFESSIONALS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC

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Cost-Benefit Analysis for Disaster Preparedness

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This course explains what Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) is and how to use it to select the most worthy project(s) from a list of candidates. Because CBA makes the user define all costs and benefits in terms of dollars, it is useful for comparing projects that may have very different kinds of good and bad outcomes that will affect different parties. The course explains how CBA can be manipulated to make a project look good or bad and how to discourage such abuse by carefully specifying how data were obtained. Some alternative methods of evaluating projects known as Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (CEA) and Cost-Utility Analysis (CUA) are also explained. These latter methods are useful for comparing projects that have somewhat similar types of outcomes. The course gives several detailed examples of how to perform these analyses.

*Note: This is a self-study course accompanied only by PowerPoint files, no audio or video files at this time.

Learning Objectives

- Understand what Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) is
- Understand why the Viewpoint and Time Frame of CBA are important
- Understand what kinds of data and information CBA requires
- Understand how CBA can be misused
- Understand some alternative approaches to determining the worth of projects

Competencies

- Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness
 - Apply creative problem solving and flexible thinking to unusual challenges within his/her functional responsibilities and evaluate effectiveness of all actions taken.
- Core
 - States the feasibility and expected outcomes of each policy option

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