

*epi*TRENDS

A Monthly Bulletin on Epidemiology and Public Health Practice in Washington

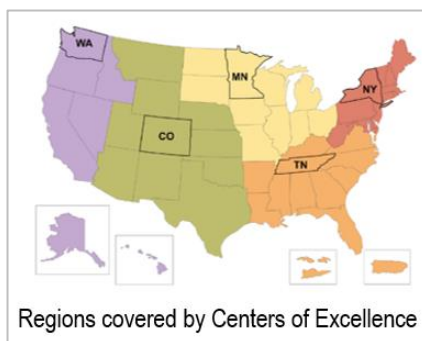
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Washington Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence

Who are we?

Washington hosts one of the five federally-funded Centers of Excellence (CoEs) throughout the country designated to support state and local health departments in their capacity to track and investigate enteric diseases and outbreaks. Washington CoE will serve as a regional center for Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Hawaii, Alaska, Oregon, and California, as well as Guam. Other regional Centers are located in Colorado, Minnesota, Tennessee, and New York.

All CoEs develop a variety of tools and resources to help other state and local health departments, such as training courses, guidance documents, and workforce capacity building tools for epidemiology, environmental health and laboratory staff. The CoEs also provide in-person or remote consultation depending on the needs of the health department.



The four CoEs focuses on four areas are:

- **Strengthen and improve** foodborne illness surveillance and response
- **Evaluate and analyze** the effectiveness of outbreak detection and investigation
- **Train and educate** students and public health workforce in laboratory, epidemiological, and environmental investigation of foodborne illnesses and outbreaks
- **Disseminate and communicate** tools and resources for food safety, foodborne illness surveillance and outbreak response

Please visit us to learn more from the websites listed under Resources.

DOH 420-002



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Scientific Editor

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Communicable Disease Epi
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What is already available?

Resources currently available from the Washington Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence include:

- On-demand 3-part introductory webinar series:

Washington Integrated Food Safety CoE Webinar Series, Nov 2020



Session 1:
Foodborne Epidemiology:
Outbreak and Investigation
Review 2020



Session 2:
The Role of Environmental
Assessments in
Outbreak Investigations



Session 3:
ATG, GAC,
What Can Sequencing
Do for Me?

- General knowledge resources in epidemiology, environmental health and food safety, including videos and guides:

Introduction to Outbreak Investigation

Jeffrey S. Duchin, M.D.

Northwest Center for Public Health Practice
www.nwcpbp.org

Introduction to Public Health Surveillance

James Gale, MD, MS

Northwest Center for Public Health Practice
www.nwcpbp.org

Legal aspects of public health Food Safety

Introduction
Surveillance & Outbreak Investigation

Source of Authority
Prevention

Practical Use Process

Additional Challenges

Course Summary

Final Assessment


Introduction
An important role of the public health system is to protect the public from diseases spread through the food they eat. Despite the many systems and extensive efforts to protect the US food supply, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 48 million Americans get sick every year from foodborne illness. That is one out of every six Americans. In addition, foodborne illness results in 128,000 hospitalizations and 3,000 deaths every year.

As a public health professional, your role is critical to assuring a safe food supply and to responding to possible foodborne illness. This course will explore the major legal issues that you may encounter in your food safety work. We will start with an overview of foodborne illness surveillance and outbreak investigation, followed by a discussion of the legal aspects of food safety. Because food safety laws vary from state to state, just local health orders to local health orders, we focus on general food safety legal issues.

- Norovirus outbreak management toolkit (downloadable pdf):


Norovirus Outbreak Management Toolkit

What's in the toolkit?




This toolkit is designed as investigations.


It contains a variety of data: experienced investigators. by existing resources deve like to extend our sincere e Health, California Departm Tacoma-Pierce County He Safety Center of Excellenc


 **Norovirus Outbreak Management Toolkit [PDF, 376KB]**

Environmental Assessment Field Guides

General	Environmental Assessment Field Guide	Introduction & Control Measures
General <input type="checkbox"/> Norovirus <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis A <input type="checkbox"/> Bacterial Toxins <input type="checkbox"/> Clostridium botulinum <input type="checkbox"/> Clostridium perfringens <input type="checkbox"/> Bacillus cereus <input type="checkbox"/> Staphylococcus aureus <input type="checkbox"/> BACTERIAL INFECTIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Enterobacteriaceae <input type="checkbox"/> Enterococcus faecalis <input type="checkbox"/> Enterococcus faecium <input type="checkbox"/> Listeria monocytogenes <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonella <input type="checkbox"/> Shigella <input type="checkbox"/> PARASITES <input type="checkbox"/> Cyclospora parvum <input type="checkbox"/> Giardia lamblia <input type="checkbox"/> Trichinella spiralis <input type="checkbox"/> Toxoplasma gondii <input type="checkbox"/> HEAVY METALS & CHEMICALS <input type="checkbox"/> Botulinum toxin <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides <input type="checkbox"/> Radon	General <input type="checkbox"/> Bacterial Toxins <input type="checkbox"/> Clostridium botulinum <input type="checkbox"/> Clostridium perfringens <input type="checkbox"/> Bacillus cereus <input type="checkbox"/> BACTERIAL INFECTIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Enterobacteriaceae <input type="checkbox"/> Enterococcus faecalis <input type="checkbox"/> Enterococcus faecium <input type="checkbox"/> Listeria monocytogenes <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonella <input type="checkbox"/> Shigella <input type="checkbox"/> PARASITES <input type="checkbox"/> Cyclospora parvum <input type="checkbox"/> Giardia lamblia <input type="checkbox"/> Trichinella spiralis <input type="checkbox"/> Toxoplasma gondii <input type="checkbox"/> HEAVY METALS & CHEMICALS <input type="checkbox"/> Botulinum toxin <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides <input type="checkbox"/> Radon	Introduction & Control Measures <input type="checkbox"/> Control risk each year <input type="checkbox"/> Review and check each year <input type="checkbox"/> Control Measures <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior Change <input type="checkbox"/> Product Change <input type="checkbox"/> Exclude ill staff <input type="checkbox"/> Food Restriction <input type="checkbox"/> Hydration <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning & Sanitizing <input type="checkbox"/> Closure <input type="checkbox"/> Investigation Methods <input type="checkbox"/> Food Samples <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Samples <input type="checkbox"/> Stool Samples <input type="checkbox"/> Photographs <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews, Interviews <input type="checkbox"/> Trace-back <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple ID, investigation <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Case Finding <input type="checkbox"/> Warning Signs <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up food handlers <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up visit with investigator <input type="checkbox"/> Increased Inspections <input type="checkbox"/> Menu Rotation <input type="checkbox"/> Recalled EAT Training <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Control Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Official Certification <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Information <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Health ID sign <input type="checkbox"/> State Health Contact <input type="checkbox"/> State ID sign

 **Environmental Assessment Field Guide [PDF, 170KB]**

 **Environmental Assessment Field Guide for Molluscan Shellfish Illness**

 **Environmental Assessment Field Guide Instructions [PDF, 39KB]**

What are we working on?

- Upcoming webinar titled Diving into Vibrio (<https://foodsafety.uw.edu/events/webinar-20210520>). The webinar presentations will include:
 - Background on *Vibrio* infections
 - Vibriosis case investigation techniques (including interview tips for shellfish-associated cases)
 - Importance of shellfish traceback to identify risk factors for clusters of vibriosis cases
 - Newly-developed Vibrio Toolkit for investigators.
- Surge support at the state level for interviewing cases with notifiable enteric conditions (e.g., STEC cases).
- Mobile Health (mHealth) to use online surveys to supplement routine telephone-based case interviews for enteric conditions, initially for Giardia and Campylobacter case interviews (in collaboration with Colorado CoE).
- Training on conducting interviews for cases of enteric conditions.
- Training on utilizing allele codes, whole genome sequencing methodologies, CDC's SEDRIC (System for Enteric Disease Response, Investigation and Coordination), and NIH's National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI).
- Training on bioinformatics for epidemiologists and laboratory staff.
- Condensed Epi-Ready training.
- Sample collection resources (videos, graphic 1-pagers), to support staff obtaining environmental specimens from live poultry, turtle habitats, or restaurants as part of an investigation.
- And much more in the works!



Resources

- How to contact Washington CoE: foodsafety@uw.edu
- Washington Center of Excellence: <http://foodsafety.uw.edu>
- Northwest Center for Public Health Practice: <http://www.nwcphp.org/>
- CDC Center of Excellence Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/centers/>

