Continuous professional development training activities

Course listings 2022

>

Content

Introduction

Continuous professional development activities at ECDC aim to meet the institutional needs of the Coordinating Competent Bodies of Member States to sustain a competent workforce that is sufficiently skilled to effectively address cross-border health threats.

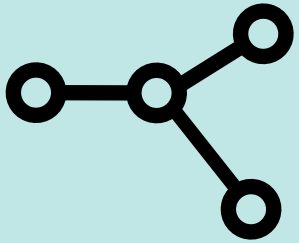
The legal basis for ECDC's activities in this area are is the Centre's Founding Regulation (EC) No 851/2004 and Decision (EU) No 1082/2013 on Serious Cross-Border Threats to Health. The ECDC Public Health Training Strategy, endorsed by the ECDC Management Board in June 2015, presents continuous professional development as one of the two core training efforts of ECDC, the other being the ECDC Fellowship Programme (EPIET/EUPHEM).

How to use this catalogue

Navigation

Linear, page by page

You can follow the guide in a linear fashion, or navigate directly to the page that interests you using your PDF reader options.



Using hyperlinks

Whenever you see hyperlinks (underlined text) or a shape like the ones below, you can click on them to navigate to the relevant page. These links will navigate to pages concerning:

- format, for example: instructor-led
- theme, for example: Epidemic Intelligence

How to use this catalogue

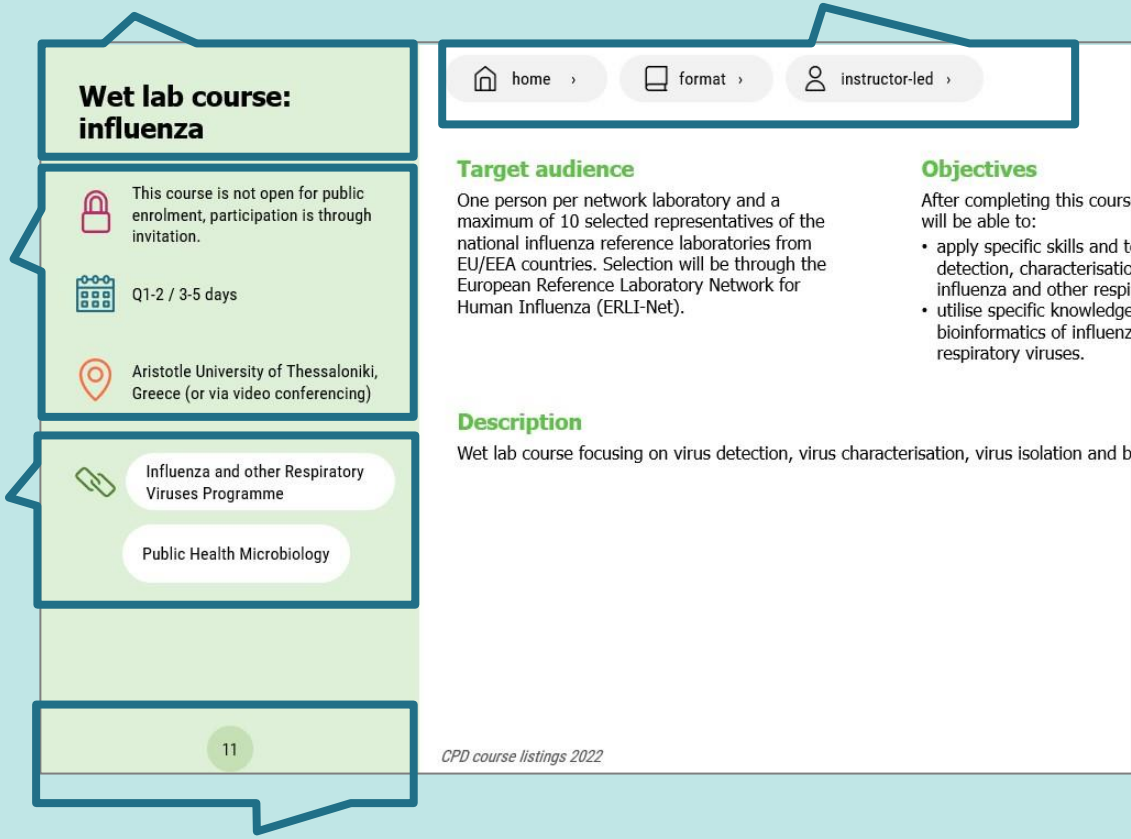
Anatomy of a course page

Hierarchical navigation, in the form of clickable breadcrumbs. Clicking on any element will send you 1/2/3 levels higher in the current hierarchy.

Course title

Availability, date, time and location information.

Navigation towards courses on the same themes.



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instructor-led

Epitweetr version 1.0 (2021/2022): early detection of public health threats using Twitter data

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

TBD, 0.5 to 1 day

Stockholm or online

Epidemic Intelligence

Target audience

Public health experts using Twitter as source to detect signals or experts working on epidemic intelligence.

Objectives

After completing this training, the participants will be able to:

- Understand the aims of epitweetr in the context of epidemic intelligence
- Understand the principles of how epitweetr works
- Analyse, categorise and interpret signals in the alert page and use the dashboard to get more information
- Acquire skills in using the pages of epitweetr application
- Understand the signal detection settings that are in the configuration page by using the dashboard
- Understand how to change the configurable setting in the configuration page such as specifications for topics (including query syntax), languages, important users, subscribers and countries & regions

This training is not intended to cover the installation of epitweetr.

Description

Epitweetr allows users to automatically monitor trends of tweets by time, place and topic, with the aim of detecting public health threats early through signals (i.e. an unusual increase in the number of tweets). It was designed to support public health experts with the early detection of threats from infectious diseases but can be extended to all hazards and other fields of study by modifying the topics and keywords.

To make epitweetr as widely available as possible, R was chosen as the computing platform. R is free, open source, and runs on any modern operating system.

Epitweetr can be downloaded free of charge from ECDC's website, the CRAN website (for CRAN users) or GitHub (for GitHub users).

This hands-on session aims to provide an understanding of the usage and functionalities of epitweetr for the early detection of public health threats using Twitter data.

The training methods include presentations, demonstrations and short practical exercises in plenary and small groups, depending on the number of participants.

Introduction to ECDC Geographical Information System (GIS) tools

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Two hours update, offered twice a year.

Stockholm or conducted remotely via videoconferencing.

Surveillance

Digitalisation in Public Health

Target audience

Public Health professionals from the ECDC surveillance/disease networks.

Objectives

After completing this course, the participants will be able to:

- Prepare maps with the ECDC map maker (EMMa);
- Find and access geodata in the ECDC geoportal.

Description

The ECDC Geoportal is a centralised platform for finding and accessing geographical information and associated geographic services related to infectious diseases.

The ECDC Map Maker tool (EMMa) is a web-based GIS tool designed for communicable disease surveillance experts to help identify patterns in communicable disease surveillance data or during outbreaks investigations.

The course will help public health professionals make the best of ECDC GIS tools, which are freely available.

Course on advanced WGS of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q2 / 3-5 days

OSR in Milan, Italy

Tuberculosis Programme

Public Health Microbiology

Target audience

Up to eight candidates from EU/EEA countries satisfying specific criteria (see below) will be identified in an open competitive process. Candidates could be nominated by NRLs within ERLTB-Net-2 and include people actively involved in TB WGS implementation.

Objectives

To provide a combination of interactive lectures and practical (bioinformatic) training to the experts working in the field of *M. tuberculosis* molecular surveillance and WGS.

Description

The following aspects of WGS of *M. tuberculosis* will be covered:

- Overview of NGS data analysis;
- WGS data interpretation based on WHO mutation catalogue V2
- Use of NGS web-tools and software for WGS analysis of MTBC sequence data;
- Guide for interpreting the phylogenetic tree;
- Bioinformatic training including:
    - -General tutorial to Install Ubuntu Alongside;
    - -MTBseq Installation tutorial based on the manual of MTBseq pipeline and it's GitHub page;
    - -MTBseq Tutorial that helps the user to run MTBseq for primary and comparative analysis.

Wet lab course: influenza

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q1-2 / 3-5 days

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece (or via video conferencing)

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

Public Health Microbiology

Target audience

One person per network laboratory and a maximum of 10 selected representatives of the national influenza reference laboratories from EU/EEA countries. Selection will be through the European Reference Laboratory Network for Human Influenza (ERLI-Net).

Objectives

After completing this course, the participants will be able to:

- apply specific skills and techniques in detection, characterisation and isolation of influenza and other respiratory viruses;
- utilise specific knowledge on the bioinformatics of influenza and other respiratory viruses.

Description

Wet lab course focusing on virus detection, virus characterisation, virus isolation and bioinformatics.

Wet lab course: SARS – CoV-2

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q1-2 / 3-5 days

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece (or via video conferencing)

COVID-19

Public Health Microbiology

Target audience

One person per network laboratory and a maximum of 10 selected representatives of the national COVID-19 reference laboratories from EU/EEA countries.

Selection will be through the European COVID-19 Reference Laboratory Network (ECOVID-LabNet).

Objectives

After completing this course, the participants will be able to:

- apply specific skills and techniques in detection, characterisation and isolation of SARS-CoV-2;
- utilise specific knowledge on the bioinformatics of SARS-CoV-2.

Description

Wet lab course focusing on virus detection, virus characterisation, virus isolation and bioinformatics.

VectorNet: Introduction to entomology for public health and animal health experts

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q3, 3 days

Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Target audience

Public health experts and animal health experts from EU/EEA Member States will be invited.

Objectives

After following this course, participants will understand:

- what are the main groups of vectors, what is their medical and veterinary relevance;
- what is their ecology;
- behaviour and life cycle;
- how you collect and identify them;
- how you measure the seasonality and abundance;
- what are the main principles of vector surveillance and control.

Description

In a One health approach, the training will provide basics knowledge about entomology to support the assessment of events.

EVD-LabNet: Laboratory diagnostic of emerging alphavirus

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

2 to 4 February, mornings only

Online

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Target audience

The primary audience is the EVD-LabNet network members. Additional participants might be considered if the setting allows.

Objectives

The training will address issues related to laboratory diagnosis of emerging alphavirus.

Description

The programme is under development.

EVD-LabNet: Introduction to laboratory diagnostic for public health and animal health experts

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q3-Q4, 2-3 days

Face-to-face, location to be defined.

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Target audience

Public health experts from EU/EEA Member States, enlargement countries and ENP countries will be the primary audience. The course will be open to selected animal health experts from EU/EEA Member States.

Objectives

In a One health approach, the training will provide basics knowledge about laboratory diagnostics to support the assessment of events.

Description

TBD

Training in vaccine acceptance targeting frontline health workers

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Approximately 2-3 days

The course will be modular, with some modules available on ECDC Virtual Academy (EVA) and others delivered face-to-face in Stockholm

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Target audience

Public health (PH) professionals and frontline health workers (FHW) involved in, or responsible for vaccine-preventable diseases at national and sub-national levels, and involved in training, or in designing training curricula for FHW on increasing vaccination acceptance.

Objectives

At the end of the course the participants will have updated their knowledge on vaccine acceptance and vaccine hesitancy and improved their skills in communicating for motivating the adoption of a healthier behavior.

Description

The course will focus on:

- vaccine acceptance and vaccine hesitancy;
- specific elements of vaccine hesitancy related to different vaccines, and a special focus on COVID-19 vaccines;
- communication and principles of effective one-to-one communication;
- elements of communicating for reaching a change in behaviour;
- principles in identifying and following-up on vaccine hesitancy;
- practice of communicating with a patient/ person to motivate her/him to accept vaccination.

ECDC Hospital-Associated Infections Outbreak Investigation Course

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q2/3 2022

Web-based

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

Target audience

Specialists in public health, epidemiology, microbiology, and infection and control who are involved in outbreak investigations in the healthcare settings. Risk managers who are responsible for analysing outputs from outbreak investigations and trainers who provide training on related outbreak investigations within their country.

Objectives

Upon completing this course, the participants should be able to:

- apply the principles of outbreak investigation;
- validate outbreak diagnosis, case definition and number of cases;
- describe data according to time, place and person characteristics;
- formulate and test hypothesis based on the descriptive data, suspected source, vehicle, biological plausibility and compatibility of the epidemiological results;
- develop and evaluate the effectiveness of control and preventive measures;
- prepare information for cascading based on the content of the workshop.

Description

This short course will strengthen the capacity of the EU/EEA countries on the application of scientific principles and concepts in the investigation and control of HAI outbreaks in acute care health facilities. This being an interactive course, participants will be invited to share their experiences during the training. The ECDC Virtual Academy (EVA) will be used for both the pre- and post- course activities and for providing access to the training materials.

Train-the-trainer workshop for Western Balkans on raising awareness for prevention of Legionnaires' disease associated to touristic accommodation sites

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

March 2022/TBD

Montenegro (or via video-conferencing)

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

Target audience

The participation in this course will be based on the ongoing framework of ECDC Technical EU Pre-accession. Through this framework, ECDC will invite 3-4 designated representatives from EU enlargement country. The invited participants will have previous experience in:

- Legionnaires' disease epidemiology and preferably nominated for ECDC EPIS ELDSNet access;
- Environmental sampling, laboratory testing or control of Legionella bacteria;
- Communication, training or prevention awareness activities;
- Implementing local/regional level action in responding to Legionella cases/outbreaks or site investigations.

Two EU MS experts will be invited to share their experience in working with accommodation owners, travel organisations, and relevant national authorities for Legionella prevention and response.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

- identify the risk, sources and the control measures for Legionella associated with accommodation sites
- discuss technical limitations in the investigation and prevention of Legionella in accommodation sites
- utilise the materials reviewed when training the local teams in their country
- plan and implement half-day information seminars in their own country
- discuss country experiences of working towards prevention of Legionnaires' disease associated with tourist accommodation.

Description

The workshop aims to support Enlargement countries in raising awareness on the risks and prevention measures of Legionnaires' disease in accommodation sites. This train-the-trainers workshop will provide a practical training for national experts working on Legionnaires' disease to enable them to facilitate and deliver an information seminar in their country's language and legislative setting. As the workshop and the relevant materials will be provided in English, any required translation to different languages or adaptation to national legislation/guidelines will be organised by participants.

Control of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in healthcare settings (1/2)

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q4/4 days

Instructor-led web-based

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

Target audience

The target audience are healthcare professionals from EU/EEA member states with current or future responsibility for prevention and control of HAIs working at national or local level. Typically, these are mid-career professionals involved in infection control programmes to prevent HAIs at hospital level: Infection control/hospital hygiene practitioners; Hospital physicians/specialist physicians; Hospital epidemiologists; Clinical microbiologists; Public health microbiologists.

Objectives

The scope of the course is to strengthen capacity in EU Member States and the European Economic Area (EEA) in the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) due to multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in acute health care settings, and to promote the broad implementation of appropriate measures in the EU. The objectives of the course are to encourage and promote team building of professionals with responsibilities and an interest in prevention and control of HAIs, and to share knowledge and best practices in the field of infection control.

The topics covered by the course will include:

- Introduction to MDROs from microbiological and epidemiological perspectives;
- Laboratory investigations and methods (identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing, good laboratory practice);
- Antibiotic stewardship (antibiotic policies, measures for improvement of prescribing)
- Infection control principles (evidence-based practice, effective infection control interventions and measures);
- Surveillance of HAIs
- Application to practice (application of interventions to control MDROs in healthcare settings, transparent reporting of outbreaks and interventions).

Control of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in healthcare settings (2/2)

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q4/4 days

Instructor-led web-based

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

Description

The program is designed to strengthen capacity in EU Member States and the European Economic Area (EEA) in the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) due to multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in acute healthcare settings, and to promote the broad implementation of appropriate measures in the EU. The course will be delivered using blended learning, with pre-course activities and a three-day instructor-led online course. As pre-course activities, a self-paced e-learning on Antibiotic Stewardship whose aim is to strengthen capacity regarding healthcare-associated infections due to MDRO in acute care settings and to promote the implementation of appropriate measures is included. A self-paced video lecture to help participants understand the drivers and modifiers of antibiotic prescribing and infection prevention and control practices in healthcare settings will also be provided. The course will be delivered in English.

ECDC 2022 Winter workshop: Recovery – from lessons identified to lessons learned

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q4 2022

Instructor-led web-based

Preparedness and Response

Target audience

The course has been designed for public health professionals, who as part of their professional responsibility are or are likely to be involved in the management or the delivery of the transition from the prolonged acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic into the recovery phase, and who commit, as one step towards strengthening the capacity of countries, to cascade knowledge gained from the training in their professional setting.

Objectives

TBD

Description

The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented event in our lifetimes and recovery from it will be long and complex. However, it is important to ensure that we learn from the pandemic and that we are better prepared in the future. The length of the pandemic has meant that we have adapted our response in part to address the specific issues raised by COVID-19. In addition, After-Action Reviews (AAR) and In Action Reviews (IARs) will identify many lessons to take forward. It is therefore important to have in place processes that consider how much of what we identify we embed in practice, how much requires further development and how that development might be achieved, and what we can discard as it was specific to that situation at that time and therefore adds no ongoing value. The workshop will bring together ECDC and other international organisations and country experts to exchange experiences, views and explore how to ensure that we plan more effectively for the next infectious disease emergency, whatever that might look like.

Summer School 2022: Ethics, risk communication and addressing the European public health framework

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q2

Instructor-led, online

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

TBD

Objectives

TBD

Description

TBD

professional exchange

1. Senior Exchange Initiative 2022: in the technical areas where ECDC contributes to capacity against communicable diseases 24
2. Food and Waterborne Diseases Expert Exchange Programme (FWDEEP) 25

Senior exchange 2022

Ad hoc expert exchange visits might take place during the Q3 and Q4, depending on the pandemic situation

Different Member States within EU/EEA

Target audience

Senior exchange is targeted to experts working with public health institutes at the national, regional or local level.

Objectives

The senior exchange provides the participants with the unique opportunity to familiarise themselves with working methods of other EU countries, and allows the host sites to share their experience, and build closer links to other institutions. The initiative aims at creating a network and trust among colleagues and supporting the European dimension in public health through cooperation.

Description

This training format is based on exchange visits and aims to provide bilateral learning opportunities. The exchange visits are self-organised, meaning the visiting expert and the host site agree on topics, scope and objectives. The visiting expert is expected to share their acquired expertise with others in his/her home country and to report these activities to ECDC.

Food and Waterborne Diseases Expert Exchange Programme (FWDEEP) (1/2)

Ad hoc expert exchange visits might take place during Q3 and Q4, depending on the pandemic situation.

EU/EEA country (TBD by the applicant)

Food and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Programme

Target audience

The FWDEEP is open to all technical experts working in an EU/EEA public health institute or laboratory at the national, regional, or local level. Each applicant is required to provide a written support from the relevant National Focal Point (NFP) or National Coordinator (NC) of his/her country to qualify for participation.

Professional profiles of applicants may include epidemiologist, microbiologist, laboratory technician, bioinformatician, quality assurance expert, or any other public health expert fulfilling the national interest for capacity-building.

The selected participants should have expertise in one or more of the diseases covered by ECDC's Food and waterborne diseases and zoonoses mandate (anthrax, botulism, brucellosis, campylobacteriosis, cholera, cryptosporidiosis, echinococcosis, giardiasis, hepatitis A, Legionnaires' disease, leptospirosis, listeriosis, salmonellosis, shigellosis, toxoplasmosis, trichinellosis, tularaemia, typhoid and paratyphoid fever, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, Shiga toxin/verocytotoxin -producing Escherichia coli infection (STEC/VTEC), and yersiniosis).

Objectives

The programme offers a flexible training opportunity addressing the ad hoc learning needs so that technical experts can receive a targeted and hands-on training, which will develop their skills and competencies when the need has emerged. Vice versa, a technical expert may visit another laboratory/institute to offer e.g. trouble-shooting in a laboratory or hands-on training support in outbreak investigations.

The learning objectives are:

- to facilitate harmonisation and sharing of good laboratory practices across the EU/EEA;
- to encourage mutual learning and networking within the EU/EEA;
- to improve countries' national, regional, or local capacities and competence to diagnose and identify the organisms causing the diseases, particularly as part of surveillance; and
- to respond to outbreaks/clusters and apply relevant methods for the outbreak investigation.

Food and Waterborne Diseases Expert Exchange Programme (FWDEEP) (2/2)

Ad hoc expert exchange visits will take place during the Q3 and Q4, depending on the pandemic situation

EU/EEA country (TBD by the applicant)

Food and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Programme

Description

Each visit should be organised around one or a few specific topics that are identifiable as gaps or problems in the applicant's home country (trainee applicant) or at the host institution (trainer applicant). The successful applicant and host institution in case of trouble-shooting support are expected to cascade newly gained knowledge to their colleagues with the desired effect of significantly improving competence in the topic areas.

Individual experts will spend two to five days in a selected host site and receive (trainee) or provide (trainer) on-the-job training/trouble shooting. After the exchange, each participant or hosting site is expected to cascade newly gained knowledge to their colleagues in their respective home country. The participants are expected to have an impact on improving public health laboratory capability and surveillance, as well as detection and response to food- and waterborne and zoonotic disease outbreaks.

At the end of the visit, the expert is expected to submit a short report of the exchange, as per the FWDEEP report template. This report will summarise the experience, outlining its scope and topics and detailing the outcomes and skills that were acquired and problems that were addressed, thereby highlighting how the knowledge and learning objectives were met. It will conclude by explaining how the skills and knowledge gained through the exchange will be incorporated into the relevant institution(s) in the Member State.

You can find more information about the course on this link: https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/work-us/scientific-exchange-programmes/fwd-expert-exchange-programme

self-paced e-learning*

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* Also see upcoming e-learning 47

Introduction to Outbreak Investigation

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

6 to 8 hours of active learning

Available on EVA

Preparedness and Response

Target audience

This course targets public health professionals with no prior knowledge of outbreak investigation. It may also be used as a refreshment module prior to advanced courses in outbreak investigation.

Objectives

Upon completing the course, the participant will be able to:

- recognise the steps necessary to conduct an outbreak investigation;
- describe the activities involved in each of the 10 steps of outbreak investigation; and
- discuss the different application of the outbreak investigation steps for different situations.

Description

This course focuses on the basics of outbreak investigation; it introduces knowledge of concepts, basic principles, and the succession of actions. At the end of the course, the participant will have sufficient knowledge and basic skills to work in an outbreak investigation team.

The course uses a basic teaching model: 'introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection'. Course design is modular, with text, graphics, media (video lectures) and quizzes embedded in each module.

The total estimated duration is from six to eight hours of active learning.

The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are intended to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed all at once.

PRECEPT - a framework for assessing and grading evidence in public health

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

2 to 3 hours

Available on EVA

Scientific Methods

Target audience

Public health professionals from all career levels with limited or no experience with evidence-based methods, in particular professionals involved in the conduct of evidence appraisals and the development of public health guidance. The course can be useful for any health-related professional or student. Basic knowledge of different study designs and possible sources of bias is helpful.

Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the participant will be able to:

- understand, name, and explain the different steps and domains of PRECEPT;
- identify and frame relevant questions in the different domains;
- understand the concept of study validity and apply quality appraisal for different study designs in different domains; and
- apply the GRADE approach to different domains to determine the strength of a body of evidence.

Description

PRECEPT (Project on a Framework for Rating Evidence in Public Health) was initiated by ECDC to help translate the concepts and principles of evidence-based medicine into the area of public health, in particular infectious disease epidemiology, prevention and control. PRECEPT presents a methodology for assessing and grading the strength of the evidence in such decision-relevant domains as burden of disease, risk factors, diagnostics, and interventions. The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. In total, the course takes approximately two to three hours to complete. The different sections of the course are intended to be taken sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed all at once. A knowledge assessment tool is available in a mini-simulation format.

Introduction to rapid risk assessment

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

3 to 5 hours of active learning.

Available on EVA

Epidemic Intelligence

Preparedness and Response

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

Public health professionals with no prior knowledge of rapid risk assessment.

Objectives

After completing this course, the participants will be able to:
- recognise the components (steps) of rapid risk assessment production;
- describe what is expected to be done in each step; and
- contribute to a team working on rapid risk assessment production.

Description

The course focuses on planning, conducting and generating rapid risk assessments and introduces basic concepts, principles and the succession of actions. At the end of the course, the participant will have sufficient knowledge and basic skills to be involved in a team producing rapid risk assessments.

The course uses a basic teaching model: 'introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection'. Course design is modular, with text, graphics, media (video lectures) and quizzes embedded in each module. Two case studies are introduced to exemplify the various steps.

The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are intended to be taken sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed all at once.

This course consists of the following modules:
- Overview
- Definitions and ECDC context
- From signal to RRA
- Step 0 – Preparation
- Step 1 – Collecting event information
- Step 2 – Literature search
- Step 3 – Extract relevant evidence
- Step 4 – Appraise evidence
- Step 5 – Estimate risk
- Follow-up

Cross-border sharing of public health data

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

3 hours

Available on EVA

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

The course will be useful for public health professionals working in communicable diseases surveillance, data collection, data administration and clinical research.

Objectives

The objectives are to:

- understand the basic concepts of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and its impact on management and analysis of health data in the context of communicable disease surveillance;
- understand the relationship between EU legislation and national legislation applicable for public health data;
- recognise the challenges in data sharing during essential public health operations such as outbreak investigations and public health surveillance;
- understand the concept of 'open access' and how it is applied to scientific publications and research data; and
- identify a question related to data sharing in public health and consult a legal expert for advice.

Description

This course will focus on the legal context of data sharing in communicable disease prevention and control, particularly on issues relating to the exchange of health data in joint databases and between different legal systems. The course will provide the participants with essential knowledge in overcoming these challenges.

The course uses a basic teaching model: 'introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection'. The course design is modular, with text, graphics, media (video lectures), and quizzes embedded in each module.

The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are intended to be taken sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed all at once.

Essentials of writing and reviewing scientific abstracts: a field epidemiology focus

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

2 hours

Available on EVA

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

Epidemiologists working at the national or subnational level in an EU/EEA country.

Objectives

The objective is to strengthen skills in writing, reviewing and editing scientific abstracts, with a focus on field epidemiology topics.

Description

This course is based on online lectures, exercises and participation in forum discussions. The course is moderated and partially self-paced. The only elements that have a fixed timeframe are the deadlines for the peer-review assignments (writing and reviewing an abstract).

Coordination

Public Health Training Section

Peer feedback on Writing and Reviewing Scientific Abstracts: a field epidemiology focus

Date and time to be announced in EVA

EVA

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

Epidemiologists working at the national or subnational level in an EU/EEA country..

Objectives

The objective is to strengthen skills in writing, reviewing and editing scientific abstracts, with a focus on field epidemiology topics.

Description

This course is based on online lectures, exercises and participation in forum discussions. The course is moderated and partially self-paced. The only elements that have a fixed timeframe are the deadlines for the peer-review assignments (writing and reviewing an abstract).

Coordination

Public Health Training Section

Influenza bioanalytics

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

2 to 3 hours

Available on EVA

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

Public Health Microbiology

Target audience

Public health professionals, laboratory scientists, epidemiologists working on influenza surveillance.

Objectives

This course aims to enhance knowledge of the basic bioinformatics tools available for analysis of sequencing data and of the interpretation, comparison and analysis of influenza sequence data, with a focus on haemagglutinin and neuraminidase genes.

Upon completion of the course, the participant will be able to:

- understand Sanger and Next Generation Sequencing data analysis pipelines for HA and NA gene sequences;
- retrieve sequences from public databases (GISAID and Genbank);
- understand HA and NA gene sequence alignments, mutations and SNP analysis for resistance (BioEdit);
- use phylogeny software: basic concepts and instructions for phylogenetic analysis (MEGA);
- visualise and annotate phylogenetic trees.

Description

The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are intended to be taken sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed all at once.

The course has the following modules and takes approximately two to three hours to complete:

- Module 1: Sanger sequencing data analysis: from raw to finished sequences;
- Module 2: NGS data analysis: from raw to finished sequences;
- Module 3: Public databases and retrieval of references;
- Module 4: Alignments and amino acid substitution analysis of HA and NA sequences;
- Module 5: Phylogeny software: basic concepts and instructions for phylogenetic analysis;
- Module 6: Visualisation and annotation of phylogenetic trees.

E-learning for frontline managers on COVID-19 response to vulnerable populations

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

2 to 3 hours

Available on EVA in 24 languages

COVID-19

HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections and viral Hepatitis

Target audience

Front-line managers of institutions hosting or serving people who are medically or socially vulnerable to the impact of COVID-19, in different settings, within the EU, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- define some groups that are medically or socially vulnerable to COVID-19;
- identify the good practices developed by Member States in order to support these populations;
- identify the special provisions to mitigate the challenges of people in long-term care facilities, prisons and migration and detention centres.

Description

The course is designed to take one to two hours. It's composed of a main body and three optional modules with specific measures for Prisons, long-term care facilities and migration/detention centres. In order to obtain a certificate, participants must complete all the main body modules as well as one of the three optional ones.

Contact tracing in the context of COVID-19 response

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

1,5 hours

Available on EVA

COVID-19

Target audience

Public health professionals, specifically public health authorities new to contact tracing activities.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- explain to decision-makers the importance of contact tracing as a public health measure in the context of COVID-19;
- adapt to the local context the processes of contact tracing for COVID-19;
- identify ways to scale up contact tracing and reflect on how to adapt them to the local context; and
- understand the benefits and risks of using mobile applications to undertake contact tracing.

Description

Contact tracing is an essential measure to fight the ongoing epidemic of COVID-19, in conjunction with active case finding and testing, and in synergy with other measures such as physical distancing.

The course is designed as a non-moderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can decide when to start it, interrupt and come back to continue at any time. In total, the course is designed to take approximately 1.5 hours to complete.

Micro learning - COVID-19 infection prevention and control

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

15 minutes

Available on EVA

COVID-19

Target audience

Public health professionals.

Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to identify the instructions to give to your patients who are taking care of a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the household

Description

The aim of this micro-learning is to provide information on the measures for infection prevention and control (IPC) at the household level when assisting suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases with mild symptoms.

Micro learning - What are the non-pharmaceutical countermeasures to minimise transmission of COVID-19?

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

40 minutes

Available on EVA

COVID-19

Target audience

Public health professionals.

Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- Describe personal protective measures: hand hygiene and cough etiquette;
- Identify personal protective equipment (PPE): respirators, facemasks, goggles, downs and gloves;
- Describe donning (wear) and doffing (remove) PPE.
- Estimate the necessary amount of PPE.

Description

This micro-learning explains measures that healthcare workers should implement (wearing medical/surgical face masks and respirators) and advocate in their communities (wearing face masks) to help minimise the transmission of COVID-19. It also presents various protective measures for healthcare workers.

Micro learning- Understanding Vaccine Acceptance & Strategies to Increase Vaccine Uptake

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

30 minutes

Available on EVA

COVID-19

Target audience

Healthcare workers, health promoters/health promotion managers, civil society organisations working at national and sub-national levels working on vaccination or in vaccination programs. Public health and risk communication professionals may also be interested in the concepts and strategies introduced..

Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- describe the 5C model and advocate for its use in diagnosing barriers to vaccine acceptance and uptake, and in designing adapted strategies;
- describe why diagnosing the barriers to vaccine acceptance and uptake is essential, and recognise the data collection tools that may be used; and
- understand the need to evaluate behaviour change interventions, and describe how this may be done considering the complexity of causality in behavioural interventions.

Description

This e-learning course, developed in November 2021, during the COVID-19 pandemic, aims at increasing understanding of the drivers of vaccine acceptance and design targeted strategies to increase vaccine uptake. The course is 30 minutes long.

Video-tutorial on how to report COVID-19 cases to ECDC via TESSy

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

10 minutes

Available on EVA

COVID-19

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Target audience

Public health professionals

Objectives

This online tutorial is designed to support the users of The European Surveillance System (TESSy) on how to use the recently added functionalities to report COVID-19 cases

Description

Although this tutorial is open to any learner, only officially nominated contact points in each EU Member State will have access to TESSy to report cases.

Antimicrobial stewardship e-learning course

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

Approximately 1 hour of learning time

Available on EVA

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

Target audience

The target audience for this course are healthcare professionals from EU/EEA member states with current or future responsibility for prevention and control of HAIs working at national or local level. Typically, these are mid-career professionals involved in infection control programmes to prevent HAIs at hospital level including infection control/hospital hygiene practitioners, hospital physicians and specialist physicians, hospital epidemiologists, clinical microbiologists and public health microbiologist.

Objectives

Upon completing the course, the participant will be able to:

- understand the challenges related to antibiotic prescription, burden of anti-microbial resistance (AMR) and the principles of antibiotic stewardship;
- identify guidelines for treatment of specific conditions and formularies both at the national and local level;
- understand the implementation of antibiotic policies;
- understand measurement of drug usage and the prescribing indicators in relation to structure, process and outcomes;
- identify drug usage over time and interpret prescribing surveillance data;
- understand the elements and performance measurement for an antimicrobial stewardship program (AMS);
- identify interventions to improve antibiotic prescribing practices for hospitalised patients and measure intervention effect, barriers and possible solutions.

Description

This course on Antimicrobial Stewardship will strengthen the capacity of EU and EEA countries on the healthcare associated infections (HAI) due to multi-drug resistant organisms (MDRO) in acute care settings and promote implementation of appropriate measures. The course is designed as a non-moderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can decide when to start it, interrupt and come back to continue at any time.

Introduction to designing in- and after-action reviews

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

1 hour

Available on EVA

Preparedness and Response

Target audience

This course targets public health professionals with some prior knowledge of public health events reviewing. It can also serve as a good introduction to methodologies for people less familiar with after-action reviews.

Objectives

Upon completing this course, the participant will be able to:

- Recognise the various theoretical approaches and methods available for conducting an after-action review;
- Enumerate the necessary steps in the development of an after-action review;
- Choose the best theoretical approaches to conduct an after-action review;
- Retrieve the necessary tools and companions made available by ECDC to conduct after-action reviews;
- List the resources needed for conducting an after-action review.

Description

This course focuses on the various after-action reviews methods, designs, and approaches which are available to public health professionals when designing their own after-action reviews. The course has a linear structure with some freedom to further explore the provided content.

At the end of this course, the participant should be familiar with a variety of methodologies available and feel comfortable on the various steps necessary for an after-action review.

This course can be a good introduction for anyone in the after-action review team, but is most likely best fitted for organisers or team leaders.

Epidemic intelligence

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

3 to 5 hours

Available on EVA

Epidemic Intelligence

Target audience

Professionals with a public health background who have an interest in becoming familiar with the tools, standards and practices adopted at technical level for the early detection of health threats at EU and international level.

Objectives

After completing this course, the participants will be able to:

- understand the process of early detection of health threats at ECDC;
- identify epidemic intelligence tools and platforms;
- cite examples of best practices on epidemic intelligence among the experts in prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Description

The course will be available as a non-moderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can decide when to use it, interrupt and come back to continue at any time. The different sections of the course are intended to be taken sequentially but the course does not need to be completed all at once.

How to design a functional exercise e-learning course

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

Approximately 60 minutes

Available on EVA

Preparedness and Response

Target audience

Public health professionals seeking to learn how design functional exercises.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- understand how to develop the aims and objectives for a functional exercise;
- understand the key elements of exercise design;
- understand the key differences between a functional (FX) and a table-top exercise (TTX);
- identify the existing ECDC tools to assist you in designing your simulation exercise with a focus on public health.

Description

In this pilot e-learning course on how to design a Functional Exercise (FX), also known as Command Post Exercise (CPX), we are looking for feedback on how to improve this course in order to successfully teach the basic concepts on how to design and run an FX. This course will be especially useful as a primer to people who will be planning, design, conducting and/or evaluating an FX.

How to design a table-top exercise e-learning course

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

Approximately 30 minutes

Available on EVA

Preparedness and Response

Target audience

Public health professionals seeking to learn how design functional exercises

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- understand how to develop the aims and objectives for a table-top exercise;
- understand the key elements of exercise design;
- utilise existing ECDC tools in the designing of simulation exercise with a focus on public health.

Description

In this pilot e-learning course on how to design a table-top exercise (TTX) we are looking for feedback on how to improve this course in order to successfully teach the basic concepts on how to design and run a TTX. This course will be especially useful as a primer to people who will be planning, designing, conducting and/or evaluating a TTX.

Influenza vaccination campaigns targeting health care workers

This course is open for public enrolment, you can enrol here.

2-3 hours

Available on EVA

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

Target audience

Health promoters.

Objectives

It is our hope that a community of vaccination campaign organisers will be built in Europe that can help inspire each other to create informative and effective seasonal influenza vaccination campaigns year after year.

Description

This online course has been developed since seasonal influenza vaccination of health care workers (HCWs) is recommended in Europe but vaccination uptake remains low in most countries. During the course information about influenza disease, protection against influenza, tools to assess vaccine uptake and barriers to vaccination as well as stimulating examples of successful campaigns will be presented.

upcoming e-learning

1. Addressing online vaccination misinformation 48
2. Understanding vaccine confidence and strategies to increase uptake 49
3. Non-pharmaceutical countermeasures against pandemic influenza 50
4. Analytical and clinical validation of laboratory tests for COVID-19 51
5. Training in vaccinology targeting frontline healthcare workers 52
6. Introduction to infectious disease surveillance and the role of ECDC 53
7. E-learning for EpiPulse users 54

Addressing online vaccination misinformation

2-3 hours

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

Risk communication and public health experts at national and regional levels in the EU/EEA.

Objectives

The course aims to provide learners with a broad understanding of what online vaccination misinformation is, and what steps can be taken to address it. Through this, it aims to improve the capacity of EU/EEA countries to counter vaccine misinformation in an evidence-based manner.

Description

The 3-hour course will be split into six modules, as follows:

1. Introduction to the course and the topic
2. Social media monitoring of vaccine misinformation
3. Enhancing digital, science and health literacy
4. Pre-bunking and social inoculation
5. De-bunking and myth busting
6. Evaluation of interventions that aim to address online vaccine misinformation.

Understanding Vaccine Confidence & Strategies to Increase Uptake

30 minutes

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

Risk communication and public health experts at national and regional levels in the EU/EEA.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, learners will be able to:

- describe the 5Cs model and advocate for its use in diagnosing barriers to vaccine confidence and uptake, and in designing adapted strategies
- understand why diagnosing the barriers to vaccine confidence and uptake is essential, and recognize the data collection tools that may be used
- describe the role health authorities can take in monitoring and responding to misinformation, and be able to describe four core elements in tackling misinformation
- discuss the need to evaluate behaviour change interventions, and describe how this may be done considering the complexity of causality in behavioural interventions

Description

This course will provide experts in the EU/EEA with the prerequisite tools to increase the uptake of vaccines.

Non-pharmaceutical countermeasures against pandemic influenza

6 to 8 hours

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

Target audience

Laboratory and public health scientists.

Objectives

After taking this course, the participant will be able to:

- understand the existing scientific evidence supporting the use of non-pharmaceutical countermeasures and the lessons learned from the 2009 influenza pandemic;
- understand the process of responding to seasonal and pandemic influenza in communities through the effective use of non-pharmaceutical countermeasures;
- identify strategies to apply non-pharmaceutical counter measures in community settings to slow the spread and reduce the impact of pandemic virus.

Description

This aim of this course is to educate laboratory and public health scientists on the effective planning and implementation of non-pharmaceutical countermeasures during influenza epidemics/outbreaks and pandemics.

Analytical and clinical validation of laboratory tests for COVID-19

TBD

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

COVID-19

Target audience

Clinical and Laboratory Personal.

Objectives

After completing this course, the participants will be able to understand the need for analytical and clinical validation studies and adjust them to their base population

Description

This course is an introductory course on clinical and analytical validation. The course gives a detailed description of how analytical and clinical validation is performed in a laboratory and why is so important especially in light of a new pathogen emergence/epidemic. Thereby all terms related to validation are explained as well as the regulations and stratifications of in-vitro diagnostic tests.

Training in vaccinology targeting frontline health workers

2 hours

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

Public health (PH) professionals and primary healthcare (PHC) professionals involved in, or responsible for vaccine preventable diseases at national and sub-national levels.

Objectives

At the end of the course the participants will have updated their knowledge around vaccines and vaccination.

Description

The course will focus on:

- vaccines (recent vaccines including the COVID-19 vaccines) and information about new vaccines development, impact of vaccines on controlling infectious diseases – vaccine preventable diseases;
- vaccination, e.g.: techniques, adverse effects following immunization (AEFI) and their management, vaccination schedule, safety;
- vaccination strategies and programmes; and
- the role frontline health workers play in the surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases.

Introduction to infectious disease surveillance and the role of ECDC

30 minutes

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

Surveillance

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

The course is designed for any person who is new to surveillance in Europe, including students, decision-makers, communicators, or any citizens with interest on this topic.

Objectives

Upon completing the course, the participant will be able to:

- understand the main concepts of surveillance;
- identify the main elements of a surveillance system; and
- describe the role of ECDC in surveillance for health security.

Description

This course focuses on concepts and objectives of surveillance, different types of surveillance and essential elements of a surveillance system. It also answers question why ECDC was established and what role does it plays in surveillance and health security, especially at the EU level. The course uses a basic teaching model comprising of an introduction, demonstration and exercise and it is divided into different sessions with text, graphics, interactive slides and quizzes embedded in each session.

The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are intended to be taken sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed all at once. The total estimated duration is about 30 minutes of active learning.

e-learning course on EpiPulse

30 minutes

Once ready, the course will be available through EVA

Surveillance

Communication in Public Health

Target audience

TBD

Objectives

TBD

Description

TBD

webinar

1. VectorNet: Availability and regulation of biocides for the control of vectors of diseases of public and veterinary health importance 56
2. EVD-LabNet: Webinar on tick-borne encephalitis virus 57
3. EVD-LabNet: Webinar on a topic to be defined 58
4. Webinar with Eurosurveillance: topic to be defined 59

VectorNet: Availability and regulation of biocides for the control of vectors of diseases of public and veterinary health importance

Q1 (February 2022)

Webinar (EVA platform, VectorNet webinar series)

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Target audience

The main target audience for this webinar are public health stakeholders, representatives from ECHA as well as their country representatives, national environmental agencies, veterinary authorities, as well as medical and veterinary entomologists, epidemiologists and other relevant stakeholders

Objectives

The general aim of the current webinar is to give an overview of all actors involved in biocide regulation and use, to explain their roles, to highlight the main challenges and to detail possible approaches in overcoming these challenges.

Description

Biocidal products are used to control organisms (such as insects, synanthropic rodents, various microorganisms) that are harmful to human or animal health or to the environment, or that cause damage to human activities. This webinar will focus particularly on insecticides and insect repellents aimed to control vectors and vector-borne diseases. In the reality of evolving insecticide resistance, it is important to maintain a vector control toolbox containing a wide variety of chemical and non-chemical interventions. At EU level, Regulation (EU) 528/2012 establishes the framework and harmonised rules to ensure the risks are properly assessed before biocidal products are placed on the market. The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is responsible for providing technical and scientific support in implementing these regulations, through its Biocidal Product Committee.

Through a survey, specific challenges were identified in EU countries that limit the effectiveness and sustainability of vector control programs across Europe. Among these, the most important challenges were the limited availability of biocidal products in the EU in combination with the increasing reports of insecticide resistance, the lack of products with long residual efficacy and regulatory constraints limiting the frequency and coverage of treatments. It emerged that more understanding and dialogue is needed between the relevant actors (public health authorities, European and national biocide authorities, the insecticide industry, vector control operators) to ensure that products are developed and registered that suit the requirements for an effective vector control strategy.

EVD-LabNet: Webinar on tick-borne encephalitis virus

Q2-Q3, about 2 hours

Online

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Target audience

Virologists and epidemiologists from EU/EEA Member States will be the target audience. The webinar will be open to everyone interested regardless the geographical locations, background or current function.

Objectives

The webinar will provide an introduction to laboratory issues related to tick-borne encephalitis virus

Description

The webinar will address issues such as strain distribution, laboratory diagnostic and vaccine failure, among other topics.

EVD-LabNet: Webinar on a topic to be defined

Q2-Q3, about 2 hours

Online

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Target audience

The webinar will provide an introduction to laboratory issues related to the defined pathogen

Objectives

The webinar will provide an introduction to laboratory issues related to the defined pathogen

Description

TBD

Webinar with Eurosurveillance

TBD

Online

Target audience

TBD

Objectives

TBD

Description

TBD

training materials

1. Development, implementation, and evaluation of prudent antibiotic use campaigns 61
2. Epidemiological aspects of vaccine-preventable diseases 62
3. Legionnaires' disease: risk assessment, outbreak investigation and control 63
4. Control of multi-drug resistant micro-organisms (MDRO) in healthcare settings 64
5. Point prevalence survey training of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial use in acute care hospitals 65

Training materials on development, implementation and evaluation of prudent antibiotic use campaigns

EVA

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

What you will find

You will find course material that you may use to offer a training for your target audience. Your target audience could include health communicators with an interest on antimicrobial resistance and prudent use of antibiotics.

Objectives

The aim of this course is to provide planners and implementers of prudent antibiotic use campaigns with the basic knowledge and skills required to plan, conduct and evaluate such campaigns.

Learning objectives of the course material are to:

- understand and explain the rationale, key elements and steps required to develop behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- understand and apply basic social marketing concepts in the development implementation and evaluation of behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- design and implement behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- identify and select appropriate indicators, methods and tools for evaluation of behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- design and implement an evaluation work plan for behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use.

Description

These materials can be used as a basis to organise further trainings at national level, to strengthen participants' knowledge and skills on prudent antibiotic use campaigns.

‘Train the trainer’ training materials on epidemiological aspects of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD)

EVA

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

What you will find

You will find training material that you may use to offer a training for your target audience. Your target audience could include senior epidemiologists working in surveillance and outbreak investigation of VPDs. The expectation is that the course materials will improve the capacity of the participants to become trainers in vaccinology.

Objectives

The objectives of this course material are to:

- become familiar with interactive and adult learning methods, e.g. case studies;
- be able to lecture on surveillance, outbreak investigation and applied epidemiological research of VPD;
- be able to facilitate case studies in these areas;
- be able to define the target audience and to adjust material/contents;
- mobilise resources (human, budget, etc.) to organise training in this area.

Description

Training materials from a three-day course organised as a ‘Train the trainers’ activity aiming at preparing senior professionals to organise, manage and conduct a course covering the epidemiological aspects of vaccination. Epidemiological methods for VPDs is split into three themes: Surveillance, Outbreak Investigation and Applied Epidemiological Research.

Lectures, case studies and group exercises are available.

Training materials on Legionnaires' disease: risk assessment, outbreak investigation and control

EVA

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

What you will find

You will find materials that you may use to offer a training for your target audience. Your target audience could be multidisciplinary, consisting of mid-career and/or senior experts in the area of public health, particularly those dealing with Legionnaires' disease.

Objectives

The goal of this training is to strengthen the participant's knowledge and skills in order to improve the collaboration and communication among the different disciplines (microbiology, environmental health and epidemiology) involved in a Legionnaires' disease outbreak investigation and control.

Description

The course incorporates different teaching methods: short presentations, group work, risk assessments using photographic material. It proposes to organise field visits to understand potential sources of outbreaks (e.g. cooling towers, spa pools, and water systems).

Contents include clinical, epidemiological and environmental aspects of Legionnaires' disease, water systems and control measures, diagnostics, principles of outbreak investigation in different settings (community, travel-related and nosocomial outbreaks), risk assessment and communication.

Training materials on 'Control of Multi-Drug Resistant Micro-organisms (MDRO) in Healthcare Settings'

EVA

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

Target audience

The target audience includes healthcare professionals with a responsibility for the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infection (HAI). Typically, they are mid-career professionals involved in programmes to prevent HAI at hospital level:

- Infection Control Practitioners;
- Specialist Hospital Physicians;
- Hospital Epidemiologists;
- Clinical Microbiologists;
- Public Health Microbiologists.

Objectives

The goal of this training is to strengthen the participant's knowledge and skills in order to improve the collaboration and communication among the different disciplines (microbiology, environmental health and epidemiology) involved in a Legionnaires' disease outbreak investigation and control.

Description

The materials are drawn from a course whose aim was to offer a flexible and dynamic programme to strengthen the capacity in EU Member States for control of HAI caused by MDRO in acute healthcare settings, and to promote the broadest possible implementation of appropriate methods.

‘Train the trainers’ materials for point prevalence survey training of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial use in acute care hospitals

EVA

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme

What you will find

You will find training material that you may use to offer a training for your target audience. Your target audience could include national coordinators of point prevalence surveys (PPS).

Objectives

The objectives of these training material are to:

- appreciate the aims, objectives & methodology of EU PPS;
- recognise healthcare-associated infections (HAI) using standard EU PPS case definitions;
- understand the concept of reliability in the context of the EU PPS;
- enter and export data EU PPS data in HELICS-Win;
- describe the best approach, organisation and training techniques to deliver training on the ECDC protocol for PPS for a short course aimed at hospital staff;
- describe and discuss the principles of and approaches to training with adult learners and the importance of learning styles;
- critically evaluate the training approaches for working with groups, including questioning strategies to ensure engagement and understanding;
- identify and utilise approaches to evaluation of training.

Description

Training materials from a day-long course with 10 lectures, eight short case studies and ice-breaking exercises are available. This set of training materials includes participants’ and facilitators’ versions for case studies.

The contents include:

- the methodology of the EU PPS;
- the systems required for data collection at the local and national level;
- the training materials for those involved in the local collection of data;
- approaches to learning and teaching: andragogy;
- the principles of, and approaches to, delivering effective training with small and large groups;
- planning for success: environment and facilitation.

Courses organized by theme

ECDC disease programmes

- Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare associated Infections Programme
- Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme
- Food and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Programme
- Tuberculosis Programme
- HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections and viral Hepatitis
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme
- Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme
- COVID-19

Public Health functions

- Preparedness and Response
- Epidemic Intelligence
- Digitalisation in Public Health
- Scientific Methods
- Surveillance
- Public Health Microbiology
- Communication in Public Health

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-associated Infections Programme

Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

Food and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Programme

Tuberculosis Programme

1. Course on advanced WGS of Mycobacterium tuberculosis 10

HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections and viral Hepatitis

1. E-learning for frontline managers on COVID-19 response to vulnerable populations 35

Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme

Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

COVID-19

Preparedness and Response

Epidemic Intelligence

Digitalisation in Public Health

Scientific Methods

1. PRECEPT - a framework for assessing and grading evidence in public health 29

Surveillance

Public Health Microbiology

Communication in Public Health

EU Initiative on Health Security courses

Workshop on Emergency Operation Centres and protocols for public health emergencies

Q1

Available on EVA
(authentication not required)

Format

Workshop.

Description

The overall aim of this EU-IHS workshop is to present EU Initiative on Health Security and to identify specific training needs which would support capacity building and enhancement of capabilities to reinforce Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC) and public health emergency management and planning in EU-IHS partner countries. At first, general definitions, purposes and characteristics of EOCs will be summarised/recalled. Then, attention will be given to the challenges and experiences that participating countries have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic and to the adaptations that they might have brought to their EOCs, Incident Management systems or planning to better fit the response to the crisis. Eventually, this will enable integrating lessons learnt in the field of EOCs while reviewing and updating PHE plans and procedures. Based on the outcomes of the workshop, ECDC and EU-IHS will discuss development of a customized technical support and trainings including in-situ visit of EOCs in the period 2023-2025.. Alignment with existing trainings programs will be ensured, to complement efforts and effective use of resources and skills.

Community preparedness case study

Q1

Available on EVA
(authentication not required)

Format

Case study.

Description

Capacity-building activity offered to countries willing to work on a common case (e.g. long-term care facilities, closure of schools, or any other response measure) and to conduct a focused AAR on evidence based decision-making. The study is based on a protocol developed to identify opportunities and constraints on the gathering and analysis of evidence based information during a real-life emergency.

It also offers guidance on community engagement for public health events caused by communicable disease threats.

Training courses on Epidemic Intelligence and Rapid Risk Assessment

Q2

Available on EVA
(authentication not required)

Format

Course. Available in English, French and Russian.

Description

This course will combine the steps from the early detection of a signal through to the assessment of a public health event. The course will focus on understanding the process of early detection, validation and analysis of health threats, in identifying Epidemic Intelligence tools and platforms and cite examples of best practices on epidemic intelligence among the experts in prevention and control of communicable diseases. The course will also focus on the basics in deciding, planning, conducting, and generating rapid risk assessments through the introduction of concepts, principles and succession of actions. At the end of the course, the participant should have sufficient knowledge and basic skills to be involved in a team producing rapid risk assessments for public health event caused by infectious diseases. The course will consist of a theoretical part and a group exercise from early detection to producing the essential parts of a rapid risk assessment based on a real-life event.

Risk communication workshop

Q2

Available on EVA
(authentication not required)

Format

Workshop.

Description

A four-hour workshop introducing the topic of risk communication.

The objectives of the workshop are:

1. to understand and discuss how to address communication shortcomings;
2. to use various sources of information to conduct dynamic listening and rumour management;
3. to consider the factors affecting accuracy, transparency and timeliness of risk-communication and to offer strategies to overcome potential barriers; and
4. to discuss strategies for fostering and maintaining trust during the risk communication process.

The workshop will be delivered in an interactive format using real-world examples of direct relevance to the participants.

Recovery – from lessons identified to lessons learned

This course is not open for public enrolment, participation is through invitation.

Q3, 3 days

instructor-lead, web based

Format

Workshop.

Audience

The course has been designed for public health professionals, who as part of their professional responsibility, are or are likely to be involved in the management or the delivery of the transition from the prolonged acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic into the recovery phase and who commit, as one step towards strengthening the capacity of countries, to cascade knowledge gained from the training in their professional setting.

Description

The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented event in our lifetime and recovery from this event will be long and complex. However, it is important to ensure that we learn from the pandemic and that we are better prepared in the future. The length of the pandemic has meant that we have adapted our response in part to address the specific issues raised by COVID-19. In addition, After-Action Reviews (AAR) and In Action Reviews (IARs) will identify many lessons to take forward. It is important therefore to have in place processes which consider how much of what we identify we embed in practice, how much requires further development and how that development might be achieved, and what we can discard as it was specific to that situation at that time and therefore adds no ongoing value. The workshop will bring together ECDC and other international organisations and country experts to exchange experiences, views and explore how to ensure that we plan more effectively for the next infectious disease emergency, whatever that might look like.

Regional workshop on entry/exit screening: science and practice

Q3

Available on EVA
(authentication not required)

Format

Workshop.

Description

This workshop provides a forum for exchanging expertise and best practices among border management and public health authority personnel (in 2022 this will be offered to the Eastern Partnership countries). The aim of the workshop is to raise awareness of the role of evidence-based best practices in entry/exit-screening and the importance of effective public health management at borders through a multi-sectoral approach and stakeholder engagement.

Contact us

For updates, please visit EVA (the ECDC Virtual Academy) at https://eva.ecdc.europa.eu and ECDC's website at https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/training

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