Appendix B. Trainings and Resources

Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR) Guidelines Toolkit

The CIFOR Guidelines were developed to describe preparation for, detection of, investigation of, and response to foodborne outbreaks. The CIFOR Guidelines Toolkit was developed to complement the CIFOR Guidelines and assist jurisdictions in a self-assessment of their procedures and includes worksheets to help with implementation of the approaches described in the Guidelines.

For more information about the CIFOR Toolkit Guidelines, visit: http://www.cifor.us/toolkit.cfm

CIFOR Lab-Epi Integrated Reporting Software

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) under the auspices of CIFOR developed the Lab-Epi Software to integrate laboratory and epidemiology data to facilitate rapid identification of outbreaks. The open-source software has been designed to be database and platform independent.

For more information about the CIFOR Lab-Epi Software, visit: http://cifor.us/projelr.cfm

Epi-Ready Team Training

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), developed the Epi-Ready Team Training. Epi-Ready is a two-day, in-person training that aims to improve outbreak response by helping team members understand each other's roles and responsibilities and by building relationships among team members. Continuing education credits are available for this course.

For more information about Epi-Ready, visit: http://www.neha.org/professional-development/education-and-training/epi-ready-team-training

Tennessee Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence (CoE) Web Course

While in-person team-trainings are regarded as the gold standard, getting an entire team together can be difficult and staff turnover would necessitate frequent retraining. To address this, the Tennessee CoE has begun development on a 7-part online training to identify the roles and responsibilities of team members and how they fit together. These courses can be taken individually, but can be completed as part of a group effort to improve communication. Continuing education credits are available for these courses.

For more information about the Tennessee CoE's web course, visit: http://foodsafety.utk.edu/training.php

Other CoE Online Trainings and Resources

The CoEs have developed numerous online trainings and resources related to foodborne illness. Resources span all disciplines and topics and are available online at no cost. Some of the trainings, videos, and guidance documents may be especially helpful when improving communication and collaboration. Resources are continually being updated and added, so check back often.

For more information about CoE resources, visit: http://coefoodsafetytools.org/

SEDRIC: System for Enteric Disease Response, Investigation, and Coordination

CDC has worked with a private-sector partner to develop SEDRIC, a secure, web-based system to streamline and coordinate outbreak investigations. SEDRIC allows outbreak response teams in many different locations to work together faster and more effectively through real-time data sharing. SEDRIC is used by state, local, and federal health departments and regulatory agencies.

For more information about SEDRIC, visit:
https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/outbreaks/investigating-outbreaks/sedric.html

CDC eLearning on Environmental Assessment of Foodborne Illness Outbreaks

CDC has developed a free online training that covers the role of environmental health specialists during on outbreak investigation. While the course targets environmental health specialists, people working in other disciplines that are involved in foodborne outbreaks have benefited from the course. Continuing education credits are available for this course.

For more information about CDC's eLearning, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/NCEH/EHS/eLearn/EA_FIO/index.htm

Rapid Response Team (RRT) Best Practices Manual

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) RRT Best Practices Manual features tools that can be used by programs to improve key areas of response such as communication, traceback and traceforward, laboratory analysis, and joint investigations and inspections. It also establishes metrics for rapid response capabilities that allow RRTs to assess their status, identify improvement plans, and quantify accomplishments and impact.

The full version of the RRT Best Practices Manual can be obtained by emailing the FDA/Office of Partnerships at OP-ORA@fda.hhs.gov.

Team Approach to Foodborne Outbreak Response

Louisiana State University in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security National Training Program developed Team Approach to Foodborne Outbreak Response. This is a 2-day, in-person training that aims to improve collaboration among outbreak teams and leverage resources to build and maintain response capacity. Continuing education credits are available for this course.

For more information about Team Approach to Foodborne Outbreak Response, visit: https://www.ncbrt.lsu.edu/Course/PER-298

Foodborne-Related Emergency Exercise Bundle (FREE-B)

FDA has developed FREE-B, a compilation of scenarios for table-top exercises. Each scenario is designed to assess food emergency response plans, protocols, and procedures. A facilitator's guide, a lead planner's guide, and a situation manual are available for free download for each scenario.

For more information about FREE-B, visit: https://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodDefense/ToolsEducationalMaterials/ucm295902.htm

FoodCORE Metrics

The FoodCORE metrics have been developed, tested, and fully implemented in all FoodCORE centers. They cover diverse aspects of outbreak response spanning from outbreak surveillance and detection through investigation, response, control, and prevention measures. Using the metrics, each center provides data about the burden, timeliness, and completeness of enteric disease activities related to the key areas of activity. OutbreakNet Enhanced and CIFOR have also developed metrics that a jurisdiction may use to guide evaluation.

For more information about the FoodCORE metrics, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/foodcore/metrics/index.html

For more information about the OutbreakNet Enhanced metrics, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/outbreaknetenhanced/metrics.html

For more information about the CIFOR metrics, visit: http://www.cifor.us/projmetrics.cfm