

How CDC Helps Resolve Outbreaks in Healthcare Facilities

Milestones in an Epi-Aid Investigation



CDC receives a call or e-mail from a facility or health department



CDC epidemiologist gathers initial information and provides consultation on case finding, lab testing and infection control



Health department extends a formal invitation for CDC to help lead an on-site team



CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service Officers arrive on-site and help gather additional information from interviews, case/chart reviews, observations and environmental sampling



The team analyzes this information to identify risk factors for infection and help develop control measures



CDC recommends new or revised measures and steps to prevent more patients from becoming infected or harmed



Health department and facility implement recommendations and check to ensure the control measures are working



Following the conclusion of the on-site investigation, group communications continue to review what has worked and make adjustments as needed

CDC reviews the situation for lessons learned and takes steps to prevent similar outbreaks



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention