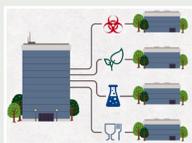


# Centered on *Food Safety*



Integrated Food Safety  
Centers of Excellence

FALL | 2016



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## HIGHLIGHTING THE PRODUCTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE INTEGRATED FOOD SAFETY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

*CDC has designated six Integrated Food Safety Centers of Excellence (CoEs) comprising state health departments and affiliated university partners in CO, FL, MN, NY, OR, & TN.*

*The Centers work together to identify model practices in foodborne disease surveillance and outbreak response and to serve as resources to assist other state and local public health professionals in implementing these practices. CoE tools and resources can be accessed at <http://www.CoEFoodSafetyTools.org>.*

### Online Outbreak Training – Course 3

#### *Tennessee CoE releases third online training module on outbreak investigations*

The Tennessee CoE is pleased to announce the release of the third course in its online training series on outbreak investigation and response. The first two courses focused on composition of the outbreak investigation team; the latest course delves into the details of investigative steps. Entitled “Initial Foodborne Illness Investigation,” the course provides an introduction to the techniques of information assessment, specimen collection, interviewing, and control measures typically employed in outbreak investigations.

The online courses provide a flexible training tool for frontline public health staff that may be unable to attend multi-day, in-person trainings offered by CoEs or other training entities. Each course requires approximately 3–4 hours to complete, but once registered, participants may log in and out at any time during the training and resume the course at their convenience. Additional courses in the series are under development as well as complementary group activities designed to support jurisdictions in the creation of an outbreak response plan. Visit <http://foodsafety.utk.edu/training> to access the courses and download the first complementary group activity.

### New Foodborne Illness Video Available

#### *Florida CoE releases the third video in its series on outbreak personnel and partners.*

The Florida CoE has released the third video in its Foodborne Illness Introductory Video Series, titled “Protecting the Food Supply: State Partners.” The series introduces novice outbreak investigation team members to the burden of foodborne illness and the responsibilities of various public health officials within a state foodborne disease program. To view the video, visit the Florida CoE YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/foodsafetyfloridaorg>.

Each state is unique in its food safety system operation. This video provides a broad overview of food safety responsibilities in U.S. state-level public health and agriculture agencies. In addition, Florida- and Georgia-specific videos have been produced to assist with the states’ respective training activities. If you are interested in creating your own state-specific video, please contact David Dekevich ([David.Dekevich@flhealth.gov](mailto:David.Dekevich@flhealth.gov)).



## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING CENTER



Housed within the Center for Public Health Practice at the Colorado School of Public Health, the Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (RM-PHTC) provides distance-based trainings to the public health workforce in CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY. This workforce is broadly defined as those who work in public health agencies or in organizations impacting the health of the public, including the health care workforce. The Training Center collaborates to develop, market, deliver, and evaluate a wide range of trainings based on current needs and public health trends. The RM-PHTC is one member of an extensive group, the National Network of Public Health Institutes, which connects subject-matter experts with organizational partners across the nation.

The Colorado CoE frequently joins with the RM-PHTC to train public health professionals who investigate foodborne illness outbreaks. Most recently, the Colorado CoE successfully completed its first Food Safety Extension for Community Health Outcomes (ECHO) Learning Community series, “Hypothesis Generation during a Foodborne Outbreak Investigation.”

For additional information on the RM-PHTC or to find other regional training centers, visit <https://www.publichealthpractice.org/> or <https://nnphi.org/>.

## Food Safety Symposium

### *New York CoE conducts hands-on training in the Northeast*

In July, the New York CoE conducted a two-day food safety symposium as part of its “Food Safety Learning Collaborative.” Twenty-seven attendees from health departments across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic participated in talks on food safety and foodborne illness investigation at Cornell University’s Stocking Hall, and enjoyed copious amounts of ice cream at the Cornell Dairy Bar, a favorite during lovely Ithaca summers. The agenda also included time for group discussions and collaborative exchanges, as well as an afternoon in a Cornell Dairy Processing facility practicing environmental assessment/sampling.



Interactive discussion topics included whole genome sequencing (WGS), culture independent diagnostic testing (CIDT), CIFOR metrics, and communications. As a result of conversations initiated during this event, the New York CoE is moving ahead with regional Community Learning Groups on WGS, and a regional workgroup to develop a CIDT survey.

## Foodborne Outbreak Challenge

### *Colorado CoE hosts inter-campus foodborne outbreak team challenge*

The Colorado CoE hosted its first Foodborne Outbreak Challenge on April 1, 2016. This one-day, inter-campus event brought together multidisciplinary teams of students from all three campuses of the Colorado School of Public Health (CSPH) to solve an outbreak and develop a food safety intervention.



In the morning, teams of students from CSPH at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Colorado State University, and University of Northern Colorado worked together to solve three outbreak mysteries: the etiology of the outbreak, the food vehicle, and the contamination source.

The second half of the day was dedicated to teams working to develop an intervention to a major food safety challenge. To cap off the day, team presentations were judged by an expert panel of food safety professionals from the local community. Scholarships sponsored by EpiX Analytics and the Colorado Beef Council were awarded to the top two teams.

Participants reported that they appreciated the realistic nature of the outbreak simulation. “The video clues were great, the vests of the workers let us know who we could ask for help, and the pseudo-stool sample was a fun addition!” said one participant. The event was developed and implemented by the Colorado CoE. For additional information and access to materials, contact Alice White ([alice.white@ucdenver.edu](mailto:alice.white@ucdenver.edu)).

#### FIND US ONLINE

CDC	<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/centers/">http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/centers/</a>
CO	<a href="http://www.cofoodsafety.org/">http://www.cofoodsafety.org/</a>
FL	<a href="http://foodsafetyflorida.org/">http://foodsafetyflorida.org/</a>
MN	<a href="http://mnfoodsafetycoe.umn.edu/">http://mnfoodsafetycoe.umn.edu/</a>
NY	<a href="http://nyfoodsafety.cals.cornell.edu/">http://nyfoodsafety.cals.cornell.edu/</a>
OR	<a href="http://www.healthoregon.org/fomes">http://www.healthoregon.org/fomes</a>
TN	<a href="http://foodsafety.utk.edu/">http://foodsafety.utk.edu/</a>
CoE Tools	<a href="http://www.CoEFoodSafetyTools.org">http://www.CoEFoodSafetyTools.org</a>
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