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Centered on Food Safety

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

CDC has designated six Integrated Food Safety Centers of Excellence (CoEs) each comprising a state health department and affiliated university partners. The Centers are Colorado, Florida, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, and Tennessee.

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>.

Live Learning Training Series Link Peers Nationwide

Centers of Excellence launch new trainings using innovative bi-directional video technology

The Centers of Excellence have begun using bi-directional video technology to deliver innovative, engaging, and travel-free trainings. The live learning model offers the opportunity to host “face-to-face” learning forums which link public health practitioners nationwide. The CoEs use bi-directional video for a variety of applications, including courses, learning collaboratives, and ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) series. One of the earliest video training collectives, ECHO (<https://echocolorado.org/>) began as a way to build linkages between local practitioners and specialists at an academic ‘hub’ via virtual clinics. Because the model is convenient for public health professionals whether they serve in rural communities or large metropolitan areas, Project ECHO has continued to expand and now operates hubs across the globe for more than 55 conditions.



The broader arena of live learning encompasses additional opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, building virtual “classrooms” that allow for deep discussion and interaction between participants, regardless of the distance between their physical locations. The interpersonal connections made by participants in these virtual “classrooms” develop into broader peer networks which provide an opportunity to share and learn beyond a structured curriculum.

Upcoming CoE live learning opportunities include Applied Whole Genome Sequencing for Epidemiologists, Hypothesis Generation during a Foodborne Outbreak, Foundational Interview Skills Training, and Advanced Interview Skills. These trainings are developed and hosted in coordination with the Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (<https://www.publichealthpractice.org/>). For more information, visit www.COFoodSafety.org, or contact Alice White (alice.white@ucdenver.edu).



Turn Up for Food Safety!

Missed us at CSTE or AFDO?

Catch up with CoE personnel at these upcoming events:

IAFP Annual Meeting	July 9-12, 2017	Tampa, FL
NEHA Annual Conference	July 10-13, 2017	Grand Rapids, MI
NACCHO Annual Meeting	July 11-13, 2017	Pittsburgh, PA
InFORM Conference	November 6-9, 2017	Garden Grove, CA

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:

UGA Center for Food Safety



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**

The food industry caters to an increasingly exacting public with an ever-broadening palate. Achieving commercial success with food products therefore requires ensuring high quality within strict safety constraints. In order to help the food industry meet these needs, the Center for Food Safety (CFS) was established by the University of Georgia in 1993. The Center's mission is to improve food safety through the development of methods to detect, control, and eliminate pathogenic microorganisms.

CFS's state-of-the-art facilities enable faculty to conduct cutting-edge research that benefits the food industry as well as the consumer. CFS faculty are involved in multiple graduate programs, including Avian Medicine, Food Science and Technology, Environmental Health Science, Biochemical Engineering, and Physics. Through its array of programs, strong collaborative ties have been developed with CDC and USDA. CFS also works closely with the food industry and Center industry members, including a wide variety of national and international corporations that contribute to the research programs.

CFS research findings are communicated through scientific publications, a triannual newsletter, and an annual meeting. For more information or to sign up for *At A Glance*, the Center for Food Safety's newsletter, please visit the CFS website (http://bit.ly/UGA_CFS),

Outbreak Training Needs Assessed

NY CoE publishes results of regional needs assessment

In 2016, the New York Center of Excellence conducted a food safety needs assessment targeting foodborne outbreak investigators of various disciplines working at health jurisdictions within the CoE region. In March 2017, the needs assessment results were published in the *Journal of Public Health Management & Practice*, titled *Foodborne Illness Outbreak Investigation Training Needs: A Survey Among State Public Health Staff in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic United States*.



The survey sought to identify self-reported training needs regarding general foodborne outbreak investigation skills as well as those specific to epidemiologists, environmental health specialists, and laboratorians. Training topics assessed included basic food safety/processing knowledge, communication and metrics, and training formats. Surveys from respondents in 12 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic jurisdictions identified metrics (100%), increasing use of culture-independent diagnostic tests (85%), and guidance on implementation of the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR) guidelines (89%) as the top training needs. By discipline, epidemiologists (100%) and laboratorians (91%) both cited training on whole genome sequencing, while environmental health specialists cited training on the National Outbreak Reporting System (67%) as their top need. For more information on study objectives, design and outcome measures, the manuscript abstract is available at http://bit.ly/NYCoE_TrainingNeeds_JPHMP.

New Marijuana Edibles Case Study

CO CoE launches case study on an unintentional marijuana exposure

The Colorado Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence has launched a new foodborne outbreak investigation case study. "County Fair Chocolate Scare" is based on an outbreak caused by the unintentional ingestion of marijuana-infused foods (known as "edibles") at a county fair in Colorado. It is designed to facilitate discussion among public health professionals about how to respond to an outbreak involving a marijuana-infused food. The exercise can help foodborne programs in jurisdictions in which marijuana has been legalized navigate the implications for such an investigation and suggests special considerations needed. The case study is available at www.COFoodSafety.org. For more information or to suggest an outbreak for future case studies, please contact Alice White (alice.white@ucdenver.edu).



FIND US ONLINE

CDC	http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/centers/
Colorado	http://www.cofoodsafety.org/
Florida	http://foodsafetyflorida.org/
Minnesota	http://mnfoodsafetycoe.umn.edu/
New York	http://nyfoodsafety.cals.cornell.edu/
Oregon	http://www.healthoregon.org/fomes
Tennessee	http://foodsafety.utk.edu/
CoE Tools	http://www.CoEFoodSafetyTools.org
Twitter Feed	@FoodSafetyCoE



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