

# Introduction to Communicable Disease Surveillance and Investigation in North Carolina

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Is this course required?

This course is required by 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 NC Agreement Addenda.

#### Staff Training in Communicable Disease Control

Within one (1) year of employment, every Public Health Nurse with responsibility for communicable disease surveillance and investigation will complete the "Introduction to Communicable Disease Surveillance and Investigation in North Carolina," course offered by the Technical Assistance and Training Program of the CD Branch. Attendance and participation in the Annual CD conference is a required component of the course.

The LHD will assure that at least two public health nurses with communicable disease program responsibilities have completed the "Introduction to Communicable Disease Surveillance and Investigation in North Carolina" course.

Local health department staff may request to challenge the "Introduction to Communicable Disease Surveillance and Investigation Course in North Carolina". Staff must successfully pass the written challenge exam with a score of 80% or better and show prior academic course work in communicable disease epidemiology from an accredited school of public health within the last ten years.

### How is the course structured?

#### **Modules 1-3**

- A series of lectures using DVDs, assigned readings, on-line questions, and activities
- Each health department maintains a set of DVDs
- Lectures and website may be accessed at any time
- Regional Communicable Disease Nurse Consultants are available for assistance

#### **Module 4**

- Attendance/participation in training sponsored by CD Technical Assistance and Training Program (TATP) during the course of the year
- Local and regionally-based trainings designed to minimize time away from work and travel costs

#### **Module 5**

- Attendance/participation in the annual Communicable Disease Conference
- Conference attendance is required to complete the course

### Do you offer continuing education credit?

- 38 contact hours for Modules 1-3 (required)
- 3-6 contact hours for regional meetings and trainings associated with policies (required-TBA)
- 4 contact hours for regional training on outbreak investigations (required-TBA)
- 6-10 contact hours for CD Conference participation (required)

### How much does it cost?

There is no charge for Modules 1-4.

The CD Conference may have a separate registration fee (\$25 - \$125) for Module 5.

### How do I obtain a copy of the DVDs (lectures)?

Local Health Directors received a 7-disk DVD series in Spring 2011. If you do not work in a local health department, please contact the course coordinator.

### When is the next course offered?

**The course is offered two times a year: in the spring (January – June) and again in late summer/fall. You may register using the link in the online CD Manual.**

2012 Course Coordinator	Phyllis Rocco	<a href="mailto:Phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov">Phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
South Central Region	Diane Matthewson	<a href="mailto:diane.matthewson@dhhs.nc.gov">diane.matthewson@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Coastal Region	Vivian Mears	<a href="mailto:vivian.mears@dhhs.nc.gov">vivian.mears@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Western Region	Phyllis Rocco	<a href="mailto:Phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov">Phyllis.rocco@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
North Central region	Jodi Reber	<a href="mailto:jodi.reber@dhhs.nc.gov">jodi.reber@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Eastern Region	Lorri Taylor	<a href="mailto:lorri.taylor@dhhs.nc.gov">lorri.taylor@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Mecklenburg	Susan Thompson	<a href="mailto:susan.thompson@dhhs.nc.gov">susan.thompson@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
TATP Supervisor	Kathy Dail	<a href="mailto:Kathy.dail@dhhs.nc.gov">Kathy.dail@dhhs.nc.gov</a>