Introduction

Continuous professional development activities at ECDC aim to meet the institutional needs of the Coordinating Competent Bodies of Member States to sustain a competent workforce that is sufficiently skilled to effectively address cross-border health threats.

The legal basis for ECDC’s activities in this area are the Centre’s Founding Regulation (EC) No 851/2004 and Decision (EU) No 1082/2013 on Serious Cross-Border Threats to Health. The ECDC Public Health Training Strategy, endorsed by the ECDC Management Board in June 2015, presents continuous professional development as one of the two core training efforts of ECDC, the other being the ECDC Fellowship Programme (EPIET/EUPHEM).

ECDC continuous professional development training activities for 2019

ECDC’s offerings for continuous professional development are directed at professionals in the Member States engaged in communicable disease control with cross-border relevance. These training activities seek to improve the capacities and competencies of the workforce of the national public health institutions in order to improve their response to public health threats from infectious diseases in EU/EEA countries. Public health aspects covered are preparedness, prevention, detection, assessment and control, and communication.

This document presents ECDC’s continuous professional development activities to inform ECDC’s primary stakeholders about the 2019 course offerings. The list is not exhaustive and can be subject to changes.
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What can I find in this document?

A general overview and a detailed outline of existing and planned learning activities are presented even if they are in the very early stages of planning (see box below). Every activity is coordinated by an ECDC team, and many activities are cross-cutting through the Centre.

Most e-learning activities are free and open to anyone. However, most face-to-face trainings are targeted to professionals in ECDC Disease Programmes and functional area networks. Participation in these activities is through the proposal of the focal point of the respective Disease Programme or functional area within the framework of how ECDC works with the Coordinating Competent Bodies of the Member States.

Categories of CPD offerings
- Face-to-face training
  - Short courses
  - Simulation exercises
- E-learning
  - E-learning courses
  - Webinars
- Professional exchange visits
- Training materials for trainers

Who can benefit from our trainings?

ECDC's activities in the area of continuous professional development are targeted at public health professionals identified by ECDC Coordinating Competent Bodies (CCB), with the aim to build public health capacity in the Member States. Proposals to participate in continuous professional development are always channelled via the CCB (see box below).

Key terms explaining the process of interaction between EU/EEA Member States and ECDC

Coordinating Competent Body (CCB): a CCB is a dedicated contact point for collaboration between Member States and ECDC.

Each Member State has a CCB Director and a CCB National Coordinator, who serves as the overall coordinator and point of contact between the Member State and ECDC for all communication on technical and scientific issues.

Other key players of the CCB are National Focal Points for disease Groups and for public health functions. The National Coordinator may further identify Operational Contacts Points with special expertise. National Focal Points for Training (NFPT) are the point of contact for training activities.

Rationale of our activities

Activities are based on training needs as expressed (and prioritised) by the countries through the Coordinating Competent Body and the National Focal Points.

ECDC develops and uses European-wide competency-based frameworks in specific fields of communicable disease prevention, preparedness, detection, assessment and control of public health threats with a cross-border dimension.

The activities seek to be complementary to, and supportive of, the training activities of other national actors, including institutes of public health, universities and schools of public health, and add European value to national efforts.

The offerings are designed by experts at ECDC (domain-specific ECDC Disease Programmes and public health function sections) or through collaboration of external experts.
ECDC routinely applies for course accreditation from the European Council of Continuing Medical Education (EACCME, http://www.eaccme.eu/) and the Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA; http://aphea.net/).

Ultimately, ECDC’s continuous professional development activities strive to encourage knowledge transfer, and participants are given access to all training materials. Materials can be adapted and translated to meet the needs of the Member States.

All courses are delivered in English.


Feel free to contact us at courses@ecdc.europa.eu.

Follow us on Twitter@ECDC EU.

Like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ECDC.EU.
Overview of ECDC continuous professional development activities and training materials

Face-to-face short courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter workshop first edition</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>6-7 February 2019</td>
<td>Stockholm, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The science of using science to support policymaking for prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and control of communicable diseases</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECDC Summer School 2019 – advocacy and qualitative methods in the area of communicable disease prevention and control</td>
<td>5 days</td>
<td>10-14 June 2019</td>
<td>Stockholm, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of multidrug-resistant microorganisms in healthcare settings</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>17-19 September 2019</td>
<td>Stockholm, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health genomics workshop</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>23-24 October 2019</td>
<td>Stockholm, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-sectoral biorisk awareness and mitigation training</td>
<td>1.5 days</td>
<td>5-6 June 2019</td>
<td>Budapest, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECDC outbreak investigation questionnaire tool – Voozanoo (response</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and emergency operations)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis, large capacity building workshop</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>18-20 February, 2019</td>
<td>Bucharest, Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis, small capacity building workshop</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECDC laboratory trainings in the areas of invasive bacterial diseases</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>and pertussis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emerging and vector-borne diseases – LabNet course</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wet lab course – Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECDC rapid risk assessment training</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ad hoc training (only as needed) during emergencies (pandemic clause)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Simulation exercises

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simulation exercise for an emerging threat (regional) – Decision (EU)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>No 1082/2013</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

E-learning courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>E-learning courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On EVA</td>
<td>Introduction to outbreak investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to rapid risk assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Epidemic intelligence; available on the ECDC website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing and reviewing scientific abstracts: a field epidemiology focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross-border sharing of health data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PRECEPT – a framework for assessing and grading evidence in public health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Influenza vaccination campaigns targeting healthcare workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Influenza bioanalytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coming in 2019</td>
<td>Non-pharmaceutical countermeasures against pandemic influenza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simulation exercise training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Webinars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>infection surveillance webinar series (surveillance wave September–November 2019)</td>
<td>(tentative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using EPIS-FWD (Epidemic Intelligence Information System for Food- and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses)</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuous professional development training activities

**Professional exchanges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Exchange Initiative 2019 – in technical areas where ECDC contributes to capacity building to address communicable diseases</td>
<td>1–2 weeks</td>
<td>Exchanges with the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food- and Waterborne Disease Expert Placement Programme</td>
<td>2–5 days</td>
<td>Placements with the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerging and Vector-borne Disease Programme (EVD) – twinning visits</td>
<td>2–5 days</td>
<td>Exchanges with the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunisation information systems twinning</td>
<td>2–5 days</td>
<td>Exchanges with the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECDC laboratory twinning in the areas of invasive bacterial diseases and pertussis</td>
<td>2–5 days</td>
<td>Exchanges with the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis: staff exchange visits</td>
<td>2–5 days</td>
<td>Exchanges with the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Training materials for trainers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Training materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On EVA</td>
<td>Development, implementation and evaluation of prudent antibiotic use campaigns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legionnaires’ disease: risk assessment, outbreak investigation and control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Epidemiological aspects of vaccine-preventable diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Point prevalence survey training of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial use in acute care hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Control of multidrug-resistant microorganisms in healthcare settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coming in 2019</td>
<td>Simulation exercises, training materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject-specific wiki spaces</td>
<td>Resources in wiki format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Detailed description of continuous professional development activities**

**Short courses**

**ECDC winter workshop 2019, first edition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>6-7 February 2019, Stockholm, Sweden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target audience and prerequisites</td>
<td>Public health specialists, who as part of their professional responsibility, are informing policymakers in the area of communicable diseases and who commit, as one step towards strengthening the capacity of institutional structures and processes guiding evidence-informed decision-making, to cascade knowledge gained from the course in their professional setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives/intended learning outcomes</td>
<td>The overall aim is to strengthen capacity in the application of scientific principles and concepts to inform and influence policymaking decisions related to the prevention and control of communicable diseases among public health specialists. The objectives are as follows:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Identify research evidence as one of many factors that can influence policymaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Describe and interpret the main challenges public health professionals encounter in their Member States to use science to inform policymakers at the national or local level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Share examples, from their own experience, of interventions that have effectively informed policymaking for detection/assessment, preparedness, response/control or recovery in the field of infectious diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Identify relevant resources and tools to identify and evaluate different kinds of evidence, especially systematic reviews and high-quality single studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Identify evidence-based mechanisms to enhance and support the use of research evidence in policymaking, including communication strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Design contextually appropriate KTE strategies to enhance and support the use of research evidence to inform policymaking in their Member State. integrating communication approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prepare an activity to cascade learning in their institutions or country of origin based on the content of the workshop.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ECDC winter workshop 2019, first edition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>This blended course is practical and activity-based, centred on participants' own experience in the domain of public health policy. The EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy) will be used for communication and administrative purposes, as it is a blended training. The full course comprises three modules focused on core activities and key concepts aligned with the learning objectives.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| | • Module 1 (pre-workshop online package)  
• Module 2 (workshop designed to run for three consecutive days)  
• Module 3 (post-workshop online package). |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection</th>
<th>Participants proposed by National Focal Points for Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Coordination | Public Health Training Section |

**ECDC Summer School 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>10-14 June 2019, Stockholm, Sweden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Target audience and prerequisites | Professionals with public health background who have an interest in refreshing their knowledge in prevention, preparedness, surveillance and response to cross-border health threats, and intention to transfer knowledge and skills in their setting, nationally or subnationally.  
Supervisors of the ECDC Fellowship Programme (EPIET and EUPHEM): main supervisors, co-supervisors and also those that support fellows in specific projects. |

| Objectives/intended learning outcomes | The goal of the Summer School is to strengthen the technical skills of both ECDC experts and professionals within ECDC networks, in a recurrent setting of scientific exchange on methods for communicable disease prevention and control.  
The summer school combines two different objectives corresponding to two parallel tracks:  
• Track 1: Expand the skills needed to supervise and coordinate fellows. Prepare for the delivery of the introductory course content for Cohort 2019.  
• Track 2: Gain a better understanding of how to use advocacy and qualitative methods to improve public health outcomes as well as share and exchange experiences while creating interdisciplinary collaborations within EU Member States.  
Scientific writing will also be part of the workshops. |

| Description | Track 1: Activities will focus on participants becoming familiar with the content of the introductory course and developing the skills to facilitate case studies, using concepts of adult learning and sharing teaching experiences and facilitation methods with colleagues.  
Track 2: Two main themes will be identified and a two-day workshop will be offered for each of the themes. Advocacy and qualitative methods for public health are the areas of interest for this year. Scientific writing will also be part of the workshops. |

| Selection | Track 1: Supervisors and coordinators who will be facilitating the introductory course of the ECDC Fellowship Programme (EPIET and EUPHEM): supervisors, co-supervisors and professionals that support fellows in specific projects.  
Track 2: Selection of participants from Member States is made through official invitation letters to the National Focal Points for Public Health Training, who are in turn invited to propose the candidates from their respective Member States. |

| Coordination | Public Health Training Section |
Control of multidrug-resistant microorganisms in healthcare settings

Scheduled for 17-19 September 2019: Stockholm, Sweden

Target audience and prerequisites
The target audience includes healthcare professionals with current or future responsibility for prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections working at a national or subnational level. Mid-career professionals involved in programmes to prevent healthcare-associated infections at the hospital level such as infection control practitioners, hospital physicians/specialist physicians, hospital epidemiologists, etc.

Objectives/intended learning outcomes
The aim of this three-day course is to strengthen capacity in EU Member States for control of healthcare-associated infections due to multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in acute healthcare settings and to promote the broadest possible implementation of appropriate methods. The goal is to achieve team building between colleagues with similar responsibilities in control of nosocomial spread of MDROs and to share training approaches, knowledge and best practices.

The objectives are to:
- understand the most significant mechanisms of antibiotic resistance in healthcare-associated microorganisms and their accurate detection by appropriate diagnostic and confirmation methods
- explain the global epidemiology and mechanisms of transmission of MDROs in hospital settings
- demonstrate the risk factors for development, acquisition and infection with MDROs, including host, environment and therapeutic factors
- assimilate the principles of antibiotic stewardship interventions designed to reduce the emergence and spread of MDROs in acute care settings.

Description
Three days using a blended learning format. Participative methods will be used. The self-learning component will be hosted on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy) and completed with face-to-face activities including lectures, peer learning, problem based solving and case studies.

Coordination
Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections Programme with Public Health Training Section

Public health genomics workshop

Scheduled for 23-24 October 2019, Stockholm, Sweden

Target audience and prerequisites
The target audience is a mix of 20 trainees, including pairs of epidemiologists in charge of surveillance and National Reference Laboratory (NRL) microbiology experts in charge of molecular surveillance in the 10 Member States that lack whole genome sequencing (WGS) capability (NMFP 2017 survey) and/or have been asking ECDC for an opportunity to take WGS training (ECoSuM survey 2018).

Objectives/intended learning outcomes
The training objectives are to:
- update the knowledge on public health genomics (the integration of pathogen genomic analysis for surveillance, outbreak detection and investigation)
- acquire basic skills for use of open-access WGS data analytical tools applicable to national and EU genomic surveillance activities.

Description
Training is composed of:
- principles, applications and limits of WGS for surveillance of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance at national level and in related ECDC operational work
- practical sessions with exercises of online sequence data analysis and visualisation and interactive multidisciplinary discussions aiming at using integrated epidemiological analysis tools to contextualise and interpret WGS data for public health risk assessment.
- basics of viral/microbial genomics, structure and evolution
- next generation sequencing (NGS), principles of sequence comparisons, single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) and multilocus sequence typing (MLST) analysis
- principles of phylogeny: different types of trees, how to read a tree
- epidemiological and phenotypic inference from WGS data
- public health benefits of real-time WGS-enhanced surveillance for outbreak detection
- surveillance and outbreak case studies using online visualisation tools: food- and waterborne diseases, tuberculosis, antimicrobial resistance.

Selection
Participants are proposed by National Focal Points through the National Coordinator.

Coordination
Microbiology Coordination Section with Public Health Training Section
Cross-sectoral biorisk awareness and mitigation training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>5-6 June 2019, Budapest, Hungary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Target audience and prerequisites**
The target audience includes representatives of the following main areas of activity: civil protection (e.g. firefighters), law enforcement (e.g. police, border control, customs) and health emergency services (e.g. paramedics, nurses, emergency physicians, Red Cross). The participants should have a role as training managers or as trainers.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives are as follows:
- Develop the ability to provide cascade training in the national institution for a wide audience of first- and second-line responders
- Increase familiarity with the training material, developing the ability to tailor the material for a specific national or local context
- Develop a specific plan on how the future training in their country will be deployed in order to train others, in the following technical areas:
  - Understanding the specific requirements of effective staff biorisk protection, from the perspectives of different disciplines or sectors
  - Achieving a comprehensive view on available options when conceiving an occupational safety system for different scenarios (pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical countermeasures);
- Understanding the capabilities and limitations of basic protective equipment in case of a biorisk involving event.

**Description**
Jointly organised by Europol and ECDC, the one-and-a-half-day train-the-trainers course involves presentations, scenario-based discussions in groups of multidisciplinary teams, demonstrations and practice about correct use of PPE and exchange of experience, working groups activities and short trainings mock-delivered by the attendees. This training will also include practical ‘how to’ information on the planning, organisation and execution of this type of learning activity.

**Selection**
This training is based on the regional approach introduced in 2017. This year it will involve experts in biorisk training from 14 EU Member States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovakia, Austria, Czech Republic, Romania, Croatia, Greece, Cyprus, Poland, Slovenia) (up to three per country) and from the seven EU candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo (this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence), Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey) (up to three per country). The participants will be jointly selected by ECDC and EUROPOL.

**Coordination**
Country Preparedness Support Section

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**ECDC outbreak investigation questionnaire tool – Voozanoo**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>To be determined</th>
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</table>

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Health professionals from the ECDC networks

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
Learn how to use the Voozanoo tool to create a questionnaire for use during an outbreak investigation.

**Description**
Voozanoo is a web-based open source information system/creation platform to construct health information systems. This platform can be used to create outbreak investigation questionnaires.

**Coordination**
Response and Emergency Operations Group

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**Tuberculosis, large capacity building workshops**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>18-20 February, 2019, Bucharest, Romania</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Open to appointed network members or their alternates.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The overall aim is to strengthen capacity in the Member States with regard to laboratory diagnosis of tuberculosis, i.e. isolation and characterisation of mycobacteria in order to support public health activities (e.g. molecular typing) and coordinate national TB laboratory networks.

**Description**
Under the European Reference Laboratory Network for Tuberculosis (ERLTB-Net; ECDC/GRANT/2018/001), the consortium of partners managing the implementation of activities will develop a training programme based on identified needs of the network.

**Selection**
Participants are identified within the network.

**Coordination**
Tuberculosis Programme
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuberculosis, small capacity building workshops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scheduled for</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Target audience and prerequisites</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives/intended learning outcomes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Selection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECDC laboratory trainings in the areas of invasive bacterial diseases and pertussis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scheduled for</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Target audience and prerequisites</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Objectives/intended learning outcomes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emerging and vector-borne diseases – EVD-LabNet course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scheduled for</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target audience and prerequisites</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives/intended learning outcomes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Selection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wet lab course – Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scheduled for</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target audience and prerequisites</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**ECDC rapid risk assessment training**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>September 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target audience and prerequisites</td>
<td>Health professionals from the ECDC Response Networks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**

- The objectives are to:
  - recognise components (steps) in rapid risk assessment production
  - describe what is expected to be done in each step
  - contribute to a team effort for rapid risk assessment production.

**Description**

The course focuses on planning, conducting and generating rapid risk assessments and introduces basic concepts, principles and the succession of actions. At the end of the course, the learner will have sufficient knowledge and basic skills to be involved in a team producing rapid risk assessments. The course will use a basic teaching model: introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection.

**Selection**

Through the Response Network

**Coordination**

Response and Emergency Operations Group

**Ad hoc training (only as needed) during emergencies (pandemic clause) – Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme**

- **Description**
  
  Training during emergencies, pandemics or outbreaks is provided as needed for ECDC professional networks. To be activated in unusual situations, based on ECDC assessment and request.

- **Coordination**
  
  Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses Programme

**Simulation exercises**

**Simulation exercise for an emerging threat (regional) – Decision (EU) No 1082/2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>Fourth quarter 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Regional simulation exercise based on an emerging hot topic for the preparedness community. Will involve a group of EU Member States, EU enlargement countries and European neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries working together to respond to an emerging crisis. The exercise will involve public health and other sectors, dependent on the scenario; has an additional training day on how to design and implement a simulation exercise (in delegates’ own countries).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
<td>Country Preparedness Support Section</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Professional exchanges**

**Senior Exchange Initiative 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>Multiple exchange visits planned to take place during the year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target audience and prerequisites</strong></td>
<td>The Senior Exchange Initiative is open to experts and institutions from all EU/EEA Member States belonging to formal ECDC networks, such as disease programmes, core function networks, including EPIET/EUPHEM supervisors and Coordinating Competent Bodies. Professional profiles of applicants may include: epidemiologist, microbiologist or any other public health expert fulfilling the national interest for capacity building.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Objectives/intended learning outcomes** | The objectives are to:
  - familiarise public health experts with working methods of other EU countries and share good practices
  - foster mutual learning, and encourage networking among colleagues within the EU
  - improve Member States’ national, regional and local capacity and competence towards incomunicable disease prevention and control. |
| **Description**       | The Senior Exchange Initiative is a multilateral exchange of senior public health experts from Member States of EU/EEA countries. Individual experts have a chance to spend a period of one to two weeks in a selected host site with experiential learning. The initiative is organised around one or several specific topic/s. More details for hosting institutes and applicants can be found at: [https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/training-programmes/continuous-professional-development/senior-exchange](https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/training-programmes/continuous-professional-development/senior-exchange) |
| **Selection**         | Selection of participants from Member States is done through an official call for expression of interest to the National Focal Points for Public Health Training, who are then invited to propose candidates from their respective Member States. |
| **Coordination**       | Public Health Training Section |
### Food- and Waterborne Disease Expert Placement Programme (FWDEPP)

**Scheduled for**
Multiple ad hoc visits to take place during the entire year

**Target audience and prerequisites**
The relevant ECDC networks under the auspices of ECDC’s Food- and Waterborne Disease Programme, namely FWD-Net, the European Legionnaires’ Disease Surveillance Network (ELDSNet), and the European Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Surveillance Network (EuroCJD). Professional profiles of applicants may include epidemiologist, microbiologist, laboratory technician, bioinformatician, quality assurance expert or any other public health expert fulfilling the national interest for capability building.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The aim is to have a flexible and sustainable programme for public health experts to develop their skills and competences when the need arises in the country. The objectives are to:
- develop high-quality analytical and technical capacity and capability in experts that serve national public health institutes and reference laboratories
- foster networking by sharing knowledge and expertise between the host country and the beneficiary
- improve the detection, investigation and response to emerging outbreaks of food- and waterborne diseases and zoonotic diseases.

**Description**
Individual experts will have a chance to spend two to five days at a selected host site (on-the-job training). The exchange is expected to cascade newly gained knowledge to colleagues in the home country of the participant and/or have a significant impact on improving public health laboratory capability, disease surveillance and detection, and response to food- and waterborne/zoonotic disease outbreaks.

The candidate presents a plan on how the acquired skills/knowledge will be cascaded further within his/her country, and how participating in this activity will add public health value in the EU/EEA.

**Selection**
All technical experts working in a public health institute/organisation or a laboratory at the national, regional or local level in the EU/EEA are eligible to apply. Relevant National Focal Point must support the application.

A site that has previously hosted an expert will have priority when sending their expert to visit another institute.

**Coordination**
Food- and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Programme

### Emerging and vector-borne diseases – twinning visits

**Scheduled for**
To be determined

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Members from the Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases (EVD)-LabNet

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The focus for these visits are to build capacity of laboratories that could benefit from learning new techniques in laboratories that have established more advanced technologies.

**Description**
Visiting countries bring their samples and generate their own data in a hosting laboratory.

**Selection**
Announcement during the EVD-LabNet annual meeting. However selections are made depending on the applicants requests/needs (by ECDC)

**Coordination**
Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases Programme

### Immunisation information systems – twinning

**Scheduled for**
To be determined

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Members of the vaccine-preventable diseases network. Twinning of countries that run similar immunisation information systems or can share relevant experiences.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
Provide technical ad hoc support to countries planning to introduce or upgrade their electronic immunisation systems as well as sharing evidence on good practice from other EU/EEA Member States.

**Description**
This process is building upon the experience in mapping the state of immunisation information systems in the EU/EEA; process also draws on ECDC’s 2018 technical guidance on the design and roll-out of such systems.

**Selection**
Participants are identified within the VPD network.

**Coordination**
Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Programme
ECDC laboratory twinning in the areas of invasive bacterial diseases and pertussis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>To be determined</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target audience and prerequisites</td>
<td>Primarily target laboratory operational contact points of the disease network relevant to the area of pertussis and invasive bacterial diseases (IBD) as well as appointed experts from the Member States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives/intended learning outcomes</td>
<td>Build capacity of laboratories that could benefit from learning new techniques.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The past training activities have shown that laboratory visits/twinnings are often the most suitable option to fulfil the training needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>Participants are identified within the network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Programme</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tuberculosis: staff exchange visits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduled for</th>
<th>To be determined</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target audience and prerequisites</td>
<td>Training activities are only open to appointed network members or their alternates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives/intended learning outcomes</td>
<td>The overall aim is to strengthen capacity in the Member States with regard to laboratory diagnosis of tuberculosis, i.e. isolation and characterisation of mycobacteria in order to support public health activities (e.g. molecular typing) and coordinate national TB laboratory networks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Under the European Reference Laboratory Network for Tuberculosis (ERLTB-Net) the consortium of partners supports the exchange based on identified needs of the network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection</td>
<td>Participants are identified within the network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>Tuberculosis Programme</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E-learning courses

**Introduction to outbreak investigation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Available on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target audience and prerequisites</td>
<td>This course targets public health professionals with no prior knowledge in outbreak investigation. It may also be used as a refreshment module prior to advanced courses in outbreak investigation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Objectives/intended learning outcomes | The objectives are to:  
  • be able to recognise the steps necessary to conduct an outbreak investigation  
  • describe what is expected to be done in each of the 10 steps  
  • discuss different application of steps for different situations. |
| Description | This course focuses on the basics of outbreak investigation; it introduces knowledge of concepts, basic principles, and the succession of actions. At the end of the course, the learner will have sufficient knowledge and basic skills to work in an outbreak investigation team.  
  The course uses a basic teaching model: introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection. Course design is modular, with text, graphics, media (video lectures) and quizzes embedded in each module.  
  The total estimated duration is from 6 to 8 hours of active learning.  
  The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go. |
| Coordination | Public Health Training Section with Epidemic Intelligence and Response Section |
**Introduction to rapid risk assessment**

**Availability**
Available soon on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Public health professionals with no prior knowledge in rapid risk assessment methodology.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives are to:
- recognise components (steps) in rapid risk assessment production
- describe what is expected to be done in each step
- contribute to a team effort for rapid risk assessment production

**Description**
The course focuses on planning, conducting and generating rapid risk assessments and introduces basic concepts, principles and the succession of actions. At the end of the course, the learner will have sufficient knowledge and basic skills to be involved in a team producing rapid risk assessments.

The course uses a basic teaching model: introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection. Course design is modular, with text, graphics, media (video lectures) and quizzes embedded in each module. Two case studies are introduced to exemplify the various steps.

This course consists of the following modules:
- Overview
- Definitions and ECDC context
- From signal to RRA
- Step 0 – Preparation
- Step 1 – Collecting event information
- Step 2 – Literature search
- Step 3 – Extract relevant evidence
- Step 4 – Appraise evidence
- Step 5 – Estimate risk
- Follow-up

This course is designed to take approximately 3 to 5 hours of active learning. The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go.

**Coordination**
Public Health Training Section with Epidemic Intelligence and Response Section.

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**Epidemic intelligence**

**Availability**

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Professionals with public health background who have an interest in becoming familiar with the tools, standards and practices adopted at the technical level for early detection of health threats at EU and international level.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives are to:
- understand the process of early detection of health threats at ECDC
- identify epidemic intelligence tools and platforms
- share best practices on epidemic intelligence among the experts in prevention and control of communicable diseases.

**Description**
The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go.

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**Writing and reviewing scientific abstracts: a field epidemiology focus**

**Availability**
Offered yearly and on an ad hoc basis on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Epidemiologists working at the national or subnational level in an EU/EEA country.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objective is to strengthen skills in writing, reviewing and editing scientific abstracts, with a focus on field epidemiology topics.

**Description**
This course is based on online lectures, exercises and participation in forum discussions. Course is moderated and partially self-paced. The only elements that have a fixed time frame are the deadlines for the peer-review assignments (writing and reviewing an abstract).

**Coordination**
Public Health Training Section
### Cross-border sharing of health data

**Availability**
Available on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Epidemiologists working at the national or subnational level in an EU/EEA country.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives are to:

- understand the basic concepts of Regulation (EU) No 2016/679 and its impact on management and analysis of health data in the context of communicable disease surveillance
- understand the relationship between EU legislation and national legislation applicable for public health data
- have an overview of the challenges in data sharing during essential public health operations such as outbreak investigations and public health surveillance
- understand the concept of ‘open access’ and how it is applied to scientific publications and research data
- identify a question related to data sharing in public health and consult a legal expert for advice.

**Description**
This course will focus on the legal context of data sharing in communicable disease prevention and control, particularly on issues relating to the exchange of health data in joint databases and between different legal systems. The course will provide the participants with essential knowledge in overcoming these challenges. The course uses a basic teaching model: introduction, demonstration, exercise and reflection. Course design is modular, with text, graphics, media (video lectures) and quizzes embedded in each module. The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go.

**Coordination**
Public Health Training Section with Legal Services Section

### PRECEPT – a framework for assessing and grading evidence in public health

**Availability**
Available on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Public health professionals from all career levels with limited or no experience in evidence-based methods, in particular professionals involved in the conduct of evidence appraisals and development of public health guidance. The course can be useful for any professional or student in a health-related line of work. Basic knowledge of different study designs and possible sources of bias is helpful.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives are as follows:

- Understand, name and explain the different steps and domains of PRECEPT
- Identify and frame relevant questions in the different domains
- Understand the concept of study validity and apply quality appraisal for different study designs in different domains
- Apply the GRADE approach to different domains to determine the strength of a body of evidence.

**Description**
PRECEPT (Framework for Rating Evidence in Public Health) was initiated by ECDC to help translating the concepts and principles of evidence-based medicine into the area of public health, in particular infectious disease epidemiology, prevention and control. PRECEPT presents a methodology for assessing and grading the strength of the evidence in such decision-relevant domains as burden of disease, risk factors, diagnostics and interventions. The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. In total, the course takes approximately 2–3 hours to complete. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go. A knowledge assessment tool is available in a mini-simulation format.

**Coordination**
Public Health Training Section with Scientific Advice Coordination Section

### Influenza vaccination campaigns targeting healthcare workers

**Availability**
Available on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

**Target audience and prerequisites**
Public health professionals who organise vaccination campaigns for healthcare workers

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives are to identify the elements necessary to create informative and effective seasonal influenza vaccination campaigns

**Description**
This online course has been developed in response to the fact that although seasonal influenza vaccination of healthcare workers (HCWs) is recommended in Europe, vaccination uptake remains low in most countries. The course presents information about influenza disease, protection against influenza, and tools to assess vaccine uptake and address barriers to vaccination. The course also shows examples of successful campaigns aimed at healthcare workers. The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go.

**Coordination**
Public Health Training Section with Influenza and Other Respiratory Infections Programme
Influenza bioanalytics

### Availability
Available on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

### Target audience and prerequisites
Public health professionals, laboratory scientists, epidemiologists working on influenza surveillance. There are no prerequisites in terms of academic qualifications.

### Objectives/intended learning outcomes
This course aims to enhance knowledge of the basic bioinformatics tools available for the analysis of sequencing data and the interpretation, comparison and analysis of influenza sequence data, with a focus on haemagglutinin and neuraminidase genes. The objectives are to:
- Understand Sanger and next generation sequencing data analysis pipelines for HA and NA gene sequences
- Retrieve sequences from public databases (GISAID and GenBank)
- Understand HA and NA gene sequence alignments, mutations and SNP analysis for resistance (BioEdit)
- Use phylogeny software: basic concepts and instructions for phylogenetic analysis (MEGA)
- Visualise and annotate phylogenetic trees.

### Description
The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go. The course has the following modules and takes approximately 2–3 hours to complete:
- **Module 1:** Sanger sequencing data analysis: from raw to finished sequences
- **Module 2:** NGS data analysis: from raw to finished sequences
- **Module 3:** Public databases and retrieval of references
- **Module 4:** Alignments and amino acid substitution analysis of HA and NA sequences
- **Module 5:** Phylogeny software: basics concepts and instructions for phylogenetic analysis
- **Module 6:** Visualisation and annotation of phylogenetic trees

### Coordination
Public Health Training Section with Influenza and Other Respiratory Infections Programme.

Non-pharmaceutical countermeasures against pandemic influenza

### Availability
Available soon on Q2 2019 on EVA (ECDC Virtual Academy)

### Target audience and prerequisites
Laboratory and public health scientists

### Objectives/intended learning outcomes
This course aims to provide the latest scientific information on the use of non-pharmaceutical countermeasures, summarising the lessons learned from the 2009 influenza pandemic. The objectives are to:
- understand the process of responding to seasonal and pandemic influenza in communities through the knowledge of the availability and effective use of non-pharmaceutical countermeasures
- identify how and when non-pharmaceutical countermeasures may be applied to the specific community settings to help slow the spread and reduce the impact of a pandemic virus.

### Description
Information about the influenza virus, non-pharmaceutical countermeasures used for protection against influenza and triggers for the implementation of such interventions, as well as aspects of pandemic planning will be presented. The course is designed as an unmoderated, self-paced course, i.e. participants can set their own schedule. The different sections of the course are meant to be done sequentially, but the course does not need to be completed in one go.

### Coordination
Public Health Training Section with Influenza and Other Respiratory Infections Programme.

Webinars

Healthcare-Associated Infections Network (HAI-Net): surgical site infection surveillance webinar series

### Availability
Second quarter 2019 (tentative)

### Description
- **Webinar 1:** SSI surveillance general session
- **Webinar 2:** SSI prevention indicators
- **Webinar 3:** HelicsWin.Net SSI module and hospital reports
- **Webinar 4:** Reporting SSI surveillance results

### Selection
Self-enrolment

### Coordination
Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections Programme
### Training materials

#### Training materials on development, implementation and evaluation of prudent antibiotic use campaigns

**What you will find**
You will find course material that you may use to offer a training course for your target audience. Your target audience could include health communicators with an interest in antimicrobial resistance and prudent use of antibiotics.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The aim of this course is to provide planners and implementers of prudent antibiotic use campaigns with the basic knowledge and skills required to plan, conduct and evaluate such campaigns. Learning objectives of the course material are to:
- understand and explain the rationale, key elements and steps required to develop behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- understand and apply basic social marketing concepts in the development implementation and evaluation of behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- design and implement behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- identify and select appropriate indicators, methods and tools for evaluation of behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use
- design and implement an evaluation work plan for behaviour change communication campaigns on prudent antibiotic use

**Description**
These materials can be used as a basis to hold further training courses at the national level and to strengthen participants’ knowledge and skills on prudent antibiotic use campaigns.

#### Training materials on Legionnaires’ disease: risk assessment, outbreak investigation and control

**What you will find**
You will find materials that you may use to offer a training course for your target audience. Your target audience could be multidisciplinary, consisting of mid-career and/or senior experts in the area of public health, particularly those dealing with Legionnaires’ disease.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The goal of this training is to strengthen the participants’ knowledge and skills in order to improve the collaboration and communication among the different disciplines (microbiology, environmental health and epidemiology) involved in a Legionnaires’ disease outbreak investigation and control.

**Description**
The course incorporates different teaching methods: short presentations, group work, risk assessments using photographic material. It proposes to organise field visits to understand potential sources of outbreaks (e.g. cooling towers, spa pools and water systems). Contents include clinical, epidemiological and environmental aspects of Legionnaires’ disease, water systems and control measures, diagnostics, principles of outbreak investigation in different settings (community, travel-related and nosocomial outbreaks), risk assessment and communication.

#### Train-the-trainer materials on epidemiological aspects of vaccine-preventable diseases

**What you will find**
You will find training material that you may use to offer a training course for your target audience. Your target audience could include senior epidemiologists working in surveillance and outbreak investigation of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD). The expectation is that the course materials will improve the capacity of the participants to become trainers in vaccinology.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives of this course material are to:
- become familiar with interactive and adult learning methods, e.g. case studies
- be able to lecture on surveillance, outbreak investigation and applied epidemiological research of VPD
- be able to facilitate case studies in these areas
- be able to define the target audience and to adjust material/contents
- mobilise resources (human, budget, etc.) to organise training in this area.

**Description**
Training materials from a three-day course organised as a train-the-trainers activity aiming at preparing senior professionals to organise, manage and conduct a course covering the epidemiological aspects of vaccination. Epidemiological methods for VPD are divided into three themes: surveillance, outbreak investigation and applied epidemiological research. Lectures, case studies and group exercises are available.
### Train-the-trainer materials for point prevalence survey training of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial use in acute care hospitals

**What you will find**
You will find training materials that you may use to offer a training course for your target audience. Your target audience could include national coordinators of point prevalence surveys (PPS).

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The objectives of this training material are to:
- appreciate aims, objectives and methodology of EU PPS
- recognise healthcare-associated infections (HAI) using standard EU PPS case definitions
- understand measures the validity and reliability of PPS data on HAI
- enter and export data EU PPS data in HELICS-Win
- describe the best approach, organisation and training techniques to deliver training on the ECDC protocol for PPS for a short course aimed at hospital staff
- describe and discuss the principles of and approaches to training with adult learners and the importance of learning styles
- critically evaluate the training approaches for working with groups including questioning strategies to ensure engagement and understanding
- identify and utilise approaches to evaluation of training.

**Description**
Training materials from a daylong course with 10 lectures, 8 short case studies and ice-breaking exercises are available. This set of training materials includes participants’ and facilitators’ versions for case studies. Contents include:
- the methodology of the EU PPS
- the systems required for data collection at the local and national level
- the training materials for those involved in the local collection of data
- approaches to learning and teaching: andragogy
- the principles of, and approaches to, delivering effective training with small and large groups
- planning for success: environment and facilitation.

### Training materials on ‘Control of multidrug-resistant microorganisms in healthcare settings’

**The target audience** includes healthcare professionals with responsibility for prevention and control of healthcare-associated infection. Typically, they are mid-career professionals involved in programmes to prevent HAI at the hospital level:
- infection control practitioners
- specialist hospital physicians
- hospital epidemiologists
- clinical microbiologists
- public health microbiologists.

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The goal of this training is to strengthen the participants’ knowledge and skills required for the control of MDRO (multidrug-resistant microorganisms) through the consolidation and review of microbiological and epidemiological perspectives in this field, covering: laboratory investigations, antibiotic stewardship, infection control, surveillance, application of interventions to control MDROs in healthcare settings, and transparent reporting of outbreaks and interventions.

The aim of the course is to offer a flexible and dynamic programme to strengthen the capacity in the Member States for control of HAI caused by MDRO in acute healthcare settings and to promote the broadest possible implementation of appropriate methods.

### Subject-specific wiki spaces

**What you will find**
FEM Wiki is an open information-sharing platform for public health experts, hosted and funded by ECDC. Available at: [https://wiki.ecdc.europa.eu/](https://wiki.ecdc.europa.eu/)

**Objectives/intended learning outcomes**
The aim of the FEM Wiki is to create a library of training materials for training programmes for all disciplines in disease prevention and control.

**Description**
The content of FEM Wiki is provided by users of the platform and does not necessarily represent the opinion of ECDC. The philosophy of sharing and building knowledge (in particular training materials) led to the idea and creation of a collaborative information space for the epidemiological training community – the FEM Wiki. In recent years, articles on other key disciplines for disease prevention and control such as public health microbiology, informatics and public health law have been added.