Session 2: An Epidemiologist’s Toolkit
Session Overview

Summary
This session provides an introduction to some important resources and “tools” upon which epidemiologists draw to conduct their day-to-day work, as well as to build an infrastructure for emergency preparedness. Topics covered include basic epidemiologic analysis tools and resources; public health laboratories and their role in outbreak investigation and other activities; the role of data from surveillance, interviews, and other sources; public health, allied health, and community collaborators; the media as a tool for risk communication; and the role of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in ongoing training and technical support for state and district epidemiologists. Examples of investigations in Chesapeake, Va., are given to show how epidemiology tools are used at the local level.

Intended Audience
Non-epidemiologists who collaborate or work with epidemiologists

Running Times
Part 1: 30 minutes of lecture
   20 minutes for pre-test, post-test, and evaluation
Part 2: 25 minutes of lecture
   20 minutes for pre-test, post-test, and evaluation
Optional Discussion: 15 minutes (approximate)

Learning Objectives
◆ List methods that can be used for epidemiologic assessment of a health problem
◆ Identify ways that public health laboratories carry out epidemiologic functions
◆ Identify ways that data can be collected during an epidemiologic investigation
◆ Identify allied health and community partners in the practice of epidemiology
◆ List ways in which epidemiologists work with the media
◆ Describe how the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) serves as a resource for training, technical support, and surveillance and reporting of epidemiological data