



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PUADEFPH009A Conduct a quick assessment of disease outbreak

Revision Number: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

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This unit covers the competency required to conduct a quick assessment of disease outbreak within the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Application of the Unit

Application of the Unit

The application of this unit in the workplace includes applying epidemiological knowledge and methods to conduct the quick assessment of disease outbreak to identify the disease and to apply early control measures to prevent the continued spread of disease.

This unit of competency is applicable to preventive medicine personnel. This function is limited to the performance of tasks in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

Employability Skills This unit contains employability skills.

Pre-requisite Unit/s Nil

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the Required Skills and Knowledge and/or the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Initiate data gathering for quick assessment

- 1.1 ***Relevant persons*** within affected organisation are liaised with, to inform and gain consent for quick assessment to occur
- 1.2 ***Factors affecting the complexity*** of the quick assessment are determined
- 1.3 ***Information regarding events leading up to, during or after a disease outbreak*** occurring are obtained from those involved using ***appropriate data collection methods***
- 1.4 Persons assisting with quick assessment are tasked and provided with appropriate guidance to enable them to assist independently
- 1.5 ***Environmental measurements and testing*** to support quick assessment are performed
- 1.6 Information gathered by others is facilitated into the overall epidemiologic quick assessment

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA****2. Analyse epidemiologic data**

- 2.1 Events are constructed into a time line to identify initial causative incident
- 2.2 Causative incidents are analysed to identify the nature of the disease causing the outbreak
- 2.3 Epidemiologic data is analysed to identify the spread of disease and to classify the ***proportions of the disease outbreak***
- 2.4 ***Factors relating to disease outbreak*** are compared to treatment information and organisation's response to the disease outbreak
- 2.5 ***Specialist authorities*** are contacted as required to seek expert advice or opinion to aid the assessment of disease

3. Report assessment findings and implement disease control measures

- 3.1 Assessment findings are discussed and agreed upon with personnel assisting in the quick assessment
- 3.2 Range of ***control measures*** are identified which specifically address factors relating to disease outbreak
- 3.3 Assessment findings are recorded and communicated to relevant personnel along with immediate control measures aimed at stopping the spread of disease within the organisation
- 3.4 Disease control measures are integrated with the wider environmental health support plan to apply the lessons learned in the disease outbreak to other operating areas and groups

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required Skills

- communicate appropriately about, consult on and impart knowledge of:
- causes of disease transmission
- control measures of disease transmission
- food storage and distribution standards
- epidemiologic assessment methods
- risk management principles
- water quality assurance measures
- establish and maintain administrative systems
- lead other personnel in quick assessment
- manage workplace issues and problems
- prioritise tasking

Required Knowledge

- basic knowledge of:
- epidemiology of disease
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) approach to food control
- pathophysiology of common communicable diseases
- process of disease
- comprehensive knowledge of:
- administrative systems
- best use of available resources
- causes of disease transmission
- causes of manpower wastage
- control measures of disease transmission
- documentation processes relevant to own workplace
- food storage and distribution standards
- health surveillance system
- legal rights and responsibilities
- organisational policies and procedures
- planning and control systems
- risk management principles
- role and capabilities of other health care providers including environmental health team
- team leadership management principles
- time management strategies to set priorities
- water quality assurance measures

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- liaise with personnel in authority to engender support for quick assessment
- analyse information and make accurate assessments about the nature of disease causing the outbreak
- coordinate the activities of persons assisting with the quick assessment.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over a minimum of two quick assessment scenarios.

Context of and specific resources for assessment**Context of assessment**

Competency should be assessed in a simulated situation or scenario.

Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- simulated situation or scenario of outbreak of disease with all supporting information
- equipment required to perform environmental measurement and testing.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

Relevant persons may include

Activity commander
Environmental health officer
Team leader
Technical supervisor

Factors affecting the complexity may include

Availability of personnel
Availability of resources
Continued prevalence of disease
Operational constraints
Time elapsed since first reported case
Wellness of personnel affected by the disease

Information regarding events leading up to, during or after a disease outbreak may include

Action on first reported case
Duration of illness
Environmental protection activities
Epidemiology of the presenting disease
Food sources
Hygiene procedures
Group activities
Number of personnel affected
Operating environment
Referral action
Response to treatment by health personnel
Secondary infections
Subsequent environmental protection activities
Water sources

Appropriate data collection methods may include

Document search
Inspection
Interview

RANGE STATEMENT**Environmental measurements and testing may include**

Requests for information
 Survey
 Chemical and biological testing
 Environmental measurement
 Food sampling
 Water quality testing

Proportions of the disease outbreak may include

Endemic
 Epidemic

Factors relating to disease outbreak may include

Path of disease transmission
 Proportions of disease spread and infection
 Time/date of onset
 Type of disease

Specialist authorities may include

Environmental health officer
 Health planning personnel
 Medical personnel
 Pathology specialist

Control measures may include

Controlling dust and aerial contamination
 Controlling/isolating field waste
 Education of personnel (prevention/early detection)
 Immunisation
 Improving personal hygiene
 Isolating carriers of disease
 Preventing overcrowding
 Providing adequate hygiene facilities
 Reviewing food handlers hygiene practices
 Reviewing food handling and storage practices

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Corequisite Unit/s

Co-requisite Unit/s Nil