

SURVEILLANCE & EPIDEMIOLOGY SPECIALIST

DEFINITION

Under general supervision of the Bio-terrorism Preparedness & Readiness Assessment Coordinator (and in conformity with policies and procedures developed by Division of Public Health CDC Bio-terrorism Grant implementation staff) the incumbent will serve as the Consortium's point of contact for activities relating to communicable disease surveillance and epidemiologic response preparedness for bio-terrorism threats and incidents, and other similar public health emergencies resulting from natural or man-made disease outbreaks. This position provides leadership in assessing the current surveillance and epidemiologic response capabilities of local public health and medical providers and organizations, to detect and take action to investigate and contain infectious disease bio-terrorism threats and incidents, and other disease outbreaks and similar public health emergencies. This position also has responsibility for assisting local personnel through professional guidance and technical assistance, in the development and enhancement of local and regional capacities for communicable disease surveillance and epidemiological investigation of disease occurrences. This position also participates in testing and assessing wide and individual agency capabilities for detecting, investigating and interrupting the spread of contagious diseases occurring within the population, through a variety of analytic mechanisms, including simulation exercises and retrospective learning reviews of responses to actual communicable disease; and performs other assigned duties.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Provide technical information and leadership in areas of responsibility; provide guidance and coordination of public health and medical surveillance and epidemiologic activities; assist in the implementation and coordination of public health and medical bio-terrorism plans and activities with the existing emergency management plans and operations of local, regional, state and federal agencies; in cooperation with the Consortium Training Coordinator, provide education and training to local and regional agencies, organizations and groups upon request, in the subject areas of communicable disease surveillance and detection, epidemiological investigation and assessment of outbreaks, and rapid response techniques to contain or arrest the transmission of infectious diseases.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education and Experience:

Combination of training and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with a Master's degree in Public Health or comparable area and one year of public health surveillance and epidemiology experience.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities: Knowledge of the design and operation of passive and active public health surveillance systems for early detection of acts of bio-terrorism and outbreaks of infectious disease; knowledge of the design and execution of epidemiologic investigations, to identify sources and contain further spread of infectious disease outbreaks initiated by either intentional or natural causes; knowledge of the symptoms, course of illness, modes of transmission, reservoirs of infection, methods of laboratory and diagnostic identification, and treatment procedures for communicable diseases of public health significance, including likely agents of bio-terrorism and emerging infectious diseases; knowledge of statistical analysis in relation to epidemiology and epidemiologic investigation; knowledge of the principles and practices of facilitated training and adult education; knowledge of the techniques and applications of public and community health education; skills in writing and speaking clearly and effectively; skill in working as a team member to accomplish time sensitive and objective driven assignments successfully; skill in self-directed and personal goal setting, skill in communicating scientific/medical information succinctly and accurately to groups of people with a variety of expertise; and ability to work

effectively without close supervision or explicitly defined task assignments; and ability to develop and maintain a comprehensive community-based communicable disease information network.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Valid Wisconsin driver's license or (eligibility for) and access to reliable transportation.

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