



School of
Public Health

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Center for Infectious Diseases & Emergency Readiness



Readiness Training and Research to Prevent, Detect, Investigate, and Respond to Microbial Threats and other Public Health Emergencies

University of California, Berkeley

A CDC-Funded Center for Public Health Preparedness

Mission & Vision

Our vision is to have a fully staffed, equipped and trained public health workforce that effectively and efficiently prevents, detects, investigates, and responds to microbial threats and other public health emergencies.

Our mission is to improve the ability of frontline public health professionals to prevent, detect, investigate, and respond to microbial threats and other public health emergencies through readiness education and training, and research.

Our guiding principles express our values and guide our decisions:

- Promote collaborative learning;
- Provide accessible and affordable trainings;
- Assess, promote, and use evidence-based practices;
- Prioritize work based on explicit public health criteria;
- Promote and implement innovative, state-of-the-art methods and approaches;
- Collaborate with stakeholders, partners, and other agencies; and
- Act as a community resource by having open communication of methods, processes, and results.



CIDER Programmatic Areas

Emergency Preparedness and Infection Control (EPIC) Program

The goal of the EPIC Program is to educate and train participants on core all-hazards emergency preparedness and response from the perspective of public health infectious disease emergencies. All-hazards public health emergency readiness focuses on minimizing the health consequences of any natural, intentional, or accidental disaster. Public health specializes in prevention, early detection and early warning, rapid health assessments, field investigations, field research studies, and evidence-based responses. By focusing on infectious diseases, the EPIC Program addresses the most critical roles and core functions for which public health will be held accountable: public health emergency management; essential field epidemiology; basic infection control, including community mitigation strategies; mass vaccination and mass post-exposure prophylaxis; contact tracing and investigation; basic crisis and emergency health risk communication; disaster preparedness for vulnerable populations; preventing and controlling infectious disease threats after disasters; and community emergency response public health training.

Readiness Operations Planning and Exercises (ROPE) Program

The ROPE Program was established to address the following public health needs: 1) assist in the development of Emergency Management plans related to microbial threats (e.g., Category A bioterrorism agents, Pandemic Influenza, SARS); 2) assist health departments/agencies in the design, development, execution, and evaluation of Homeland Security compliant exercises which test systems within and related to the department/agencies emergency operations plan; and 3) educate public health personnel on the concepts and strategies of exercise design, development, execution, and evaluation.

Effective Prevention, Detection, Investigation, and Response

Traditional disaster preparedness consists of four stages: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Generally, mitigation and preparedness occur during the “pre-event” time phase, response occurs during the “event” time phase, and recovery occurs during the “post-event” time phase. All disasters have public health implications, and public health has a role in all disaster stages and time phases.

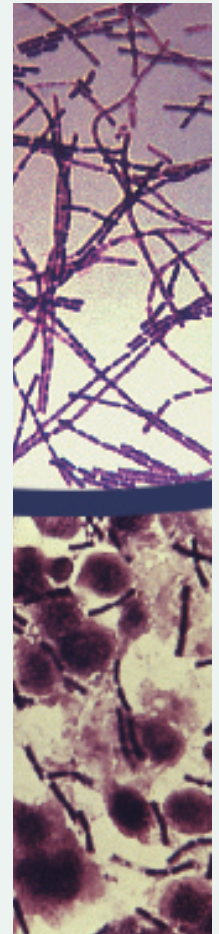
Public health systems all-hazards emergency readiness focuses on minimizing the health consequences of any natural, intentional, or accidental disaster. Public health emergency preparedness approach emphasizes prevention, early detection and early warning, rapid field investigation and valid inferences, and evidence-based responses. By focusing on infectious disease emergency readiness, CIDER Programs address the most critical roles and core functions for which public health systems will be held accountable before, during, and after any disaster.

Operational Goals

1. Strengthen public health workforce readiness through programs for life-long learning.
2. Strengthen public health readiness capabilities at local and state health departments.
3. Educate and train public health undergraduate and graduate students in emergency readiness.
4. Contribute to the Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP) Network to improve our nation’s all-hazard preparedness.

CIDER Programs

Our readiness courses and trainings, and research activities are designed to meet the diverse learning and programmatic needs of public health professionals. We provide regional seminars, workshops, conferences, and short courses year round. Our academic courses are taught at the UC Berkeley campus. Our classes are attended by a mixture of public health professionals and graduate students at UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco. Although most of our trainings are face-to-face, we do provide distance learning opportunities via the Internet. We also provide technical assistance to local, state, and federal agencies.



Epidemiology Preparedness and Informatics (EPI) Program

While disease control and prevention interventions are covered in the CIDER program, the Epidemiology Preparedness and Informatics (EPI) program provides opportunities to educate and train public health staff at four levels: 1) basic understanding of surveillance and detection, field investigations, and the epidemiologic basis of control and prevention strategies; 2) in-depth understanding of basic concepts by practicing epidemiologists so that they can train others (train-the-trainer approach); 3) high proficiency in analytic methods to design, conduct, analyze, and interpret epidemiologic studies; and 4) high proficiency in the design, implementation, and maintenance of information management systems for complex investigations.

Preparedness Research, Evaluation & Policy (PREP) Program

Now, more than ever, we must prioritize preparedness and response activities based on research and field investigative evidence. To achieve this goal, the PREP Program consist of three major areas: 1) PREP-Training: academic courses that cover the field investigative and research methods necessary to detect, investigate, and study public health emergency preparedness and response; 2) PREP-EpiReady: real-world field investigation experiences that exercise and test competencies gained in PREP-Training; and 3) PREP-Technical Assistance: client- and problem-driven special projects that use rigorous research and evaluation methods to inform and guide public health preparedness practice and policies. This unique program provides a continuum of professional growth from training in the classroom, to field investigative experiences with local and state partners, and finally, to providing research-based technical assistance that promotes evidence-based public health preparedness and advances public health workforce readiness.

CIDER Programmatic Areas continued

Technical Assistance and Special Projects

CIDER provides technical assistance to local and state health departments to increase their capacity to detect, investigate, and respond to microbial threats, including bioterrorism. These projects have emerged from requests for help from local and state health departments and from our interest in developing expertise and capacity in specific areas (e.g., infectious disease emergency operations planning, exercise design and evaluation).

Partnerships & Collaborations (partial list)

- Alameda County Public Health Department
- American Red Cross, Bay Area Chapter
- Business Executives for National Security (BENS), Northern California
- California Association of Communicable Disease Controllers
- California Department of Public Health (Communicable Disease Control Branch, Emergency Preparedness Office, Immunization Branch, Occupational Health Branch)
- California Distance Learning Health Network
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch, San Francisco Quarantine Station
- City and County of San Francisco
- City of Berkeley Public Health Department
- Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters
- County of Santa Clara Public Health Department
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance (EWIDS) Program
- EVault, Inc.
- Health Officers Association of California
- Inyo County Public Health Department
- Loma Linda University Center for Public Health Preparedness
- Long Beach Department of Health & Human Services
- Monterey Institute for International Studies, Center for Non-proliferation Studies
- Napa County Public Health Department
- National Association of County & City Health Officials
- ORC Worldwide Western Occupational Safety and Health Operations
- The Arizona Center for Public Health Preparedness
- UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters
- University of California, Berkeley Office of Business Resumption
- University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine
- University of Pittsburgh Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Center
- Verizon Wireless West Area; Great Plains Region



For more information about CIDER programs, trainings, and technical assistance, please visit our website at www.idready.org or contact us at:

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