

ASTHO-NACCHO Foodborne Surveillance & Outbreak Response Workshop

July 1, 2008 – Arlington, VA

Breakout Group Discussion: Scenario 360°

The workshop participants will divide into three break-out groups. Each group will be given a fictional news article that describes a specific foodborne illness case scenario. Each group will identify a reporter to share the themes identified during the breakout with the larger group. The groups will review the scenario and have 15 minutes to discuss issues before the outbreak, during the outbreak and after the outbreak to address three specific areas:

1. Why did this happen? How could have this prevented?
2. How could this have been handled better? What knowledge was needed?
3. What happens after the outbreak? What is/should be the feedback loop to improve?

The remainder of the breakout time will be used to discuss topics that were not raised by the scenario, but important to highlight per the breakout group. Issues that are identified during this breakout session will help drive the afternoon facilitated discussion.

Example of questions to address in each area:

Before the Outbreak: Why did this happen?

- What circumstances led to this scenario?
- What surveillance activities would have helped?
- What did you need to know or could have been done to prevent the outbreak?
- What issues, that you may have personally experienced, parallel this case and what did you learn from those experiences?

During the Outbreak: How could it have been handled better?

- What resources and expertise are needed during an outbreak?
- What communication and coordination efforts need to be improved?
- Who is missing in this scenario?
- In your experience and this scenario - where are the most common points of breakdown in the food safety system? What solutions do you suggest?
- What issues, that you may have personally experienced, parallel this case and what did you learn from those experiences?

After the Outbreak: What happens after the outbreak? What is/should be the feedback loop to improve?

- When this scenario concludes, what do you think will happen? What should happen?
- What will it take to get people to evaluate and implement prevention strategies? Who should be involved?
- When you are faced with this situation what usually happens after an outbreak? What should happen?