



A partnership of



National Health Professions Education Associations Release Foodborne Illness Training Module

Designed to facilitate collaboration and shared learning experiences among medical, nursing, and public health students, *Navigating a Foodborne Outbreak: Preparation for Interprofessional Practice* is a self-paced, interactive, online teaching module that demonstrates the importance of interprofessional practice among health professionals to improve and protect population health. The case scenario of the 90-minute module is a fictional foodborne illness based on the 2015-2016 multi-state outbreak of *Salmonella* Poona associated with cucumbers. Subject matter experts from state and local public health departments and Epidemic Intelligence Service officers with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) who were involved in the *S. Poona* outbreak provided expert guidance for the project. Settings in the module include clinical encounters with symptomatic patients, the local public health department response, and an interprofessional debriefing meeting among the clinicians and public health professionals involved in the outbreak.

The CDC defines a foodborne disease outbreak as “An incident in which two or more persons experience a similar illness after ingestion of a common food, and epidemiologic analysis implicates the food as the source of the illness” ([CDC, 2011](#)). These outbreaks are common but can be underrecognized by clinicians and the public. In this year alone, foodborne illness has been associated with raw meats, salads, vegetable trays, melon, cereal, eggs, coconut products, and nutritional supplements. See [multistate foodborne outbreak investigations since 2006 in which CDC was the lead public health agency](#).

The module takes a minimum of 90 minutes to complete and encourages learners to deepen their knowledge through links to a variety of resources that go into greater depth and tie the management of the outbreak to other types of public health emergencies. The module specifically targets medical, nursing (baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral level), and public health (baccalaureate and master’s level) students, and may also be relevant to other health professionals at various stages of their training. The module includes: a pre-module assessment; case scenario videos; supporting resources that can be saved to a personal library; a post-module assessment; and a Certificate of Completion.

The overarching competency for the module is to “describe how professionals in health and other fields can collaborate and integrate clinical care and public health interventions to optimize population health” (Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Competency RR-10). Three sub-competencies and 28 learning objectives frame the module content.

Navigating a Foodborne Outbreak: Preparation for Interprofessional Practice was developed with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to the four national associations that comprise CDC’s Academic Partnerships to Improve Health (APIH) initiative:

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
- Association of American Medical Colleges
- Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health

To access the module, please visit: <https://navigatinganoutbreakmodule.org/>