



A partnership of



## Navigating a Foodborne Outbreak: Preparation for Interprofessional Practice

A free, self-paced, interactive, competency-based, online, case study teaching module

### Purpose

The module, available at <https://navigatinganoutbreakmodule.org/>, aims to promote interprofessional practice among health professionals to improve and protect population health.

### Learner Target Audiences

Public health (baccalaureate- and master's-level), medical, nursing (baccalaureate-, master's-, and doctoral-level) students. Regarding public health audiences, the module is most relevant for Master of Public Health (MPH) students.

### Competency-based Approach

Upon completion, learners will be able 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 Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice, Competency RR-10). Three sub-competencies and 28 learning objectives frame the module content. The module is suggested to help MPH students think about how they might perform effectively on interprofessional teams.

### Product

The case scenario of the module is a fictional foodborne illness based on the 2015-2016 multi-state outbreak of *Salmonella* Poona associated with cucumbers. The three settings in the module include:

- Clinical encounters with symptomatic patients
- Local public health department response
- Interprofessional debriefing meeting among the clinicians and public health professionals involved in the outbreak.

The module encourages learners to deepen their knowledge through links to a variety of supplementary resources that extend the learning and length of the module from an estimated base of 90 minutes up to two hours. The module includes: an instructor's guide, a pre-module assessment, case scenario videos, supporting resources that can be saved to a personal library, a post-module assessment, and a digital certificate of completion.

### Background

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 2018 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](#).

### Acknowledgements

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- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)
- Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR)
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH)

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