

The World of Online Training

Knowledge at our fingertips

Over the past 20 years, the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice's (NWCPHP) principal activity has been to provide just-in-time training and ongoing learning resources for public health professionals to stay current and build capacity. NWCPHP was born around the same time as the

Internet and has grown with it, developing and offering online courses to practitioners throughout the region.

Today, NWCPHP offers 19 online courses on topics ranging from public health law to epidemiology to program evaluation. These online courses, called modules, are self-paced online classrooms. They can be taken by anyone, anywhere, over any

amount of time. Most of

them can be completed in 1-2 hours.

NWCPHP is able to provide these online courses through two major sources of federal funding. In 2000, NWCPHP became a Center for Public Health Preparedness through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Associated Schools of Public Health. NWCPHP had been receiving funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services, but in 2000 it became a HRSA Public Health Training Center. These two grants expanded NWCPHP's capabilities to provide practice-based training.

NWCPHP contracts with public health agencies to produce a wide variety of courses and is always considering new course topics. If you have suggestions for future online modules, please contact us.

"I am finding E-mail quite useful for on and off-campus communication, especially for communications across time zones. There is software available to triage incoming messages to keep CEOs from getting swamped. Let me know if you would like to discuss further. If you prefer not to deal with it directly, your secretary can download and print incoming messages so you can read hard copy and jot down notes for someone else to send replies."

— Mark Oberle memo to Dean Gil Omenn
March 27, 1992

NWCPHP Online Training Modules (available online at no cost to the public)

- Cause and Effect (2007)
- Data Analysis Modules 1-5 (2008)
- Data Collection for Program Evaluation (2009)
- Data Interpretation (2006)
- Disaster Behavioral Health (2006)
- Emergency Risk Communication (2006)
- Environmental Health Communication (2007)
- Infectious Disease (2006)
- Logic Models (2007)
- Measuring Risk (2008)
- Outbreak Investigation (2006)
- Pharmacy (2008)
- Program Evaluation (2007)
- Public Health Law (2005)
- Screening in Public Health Practice (2009)
- Study Types (2008)
- Surveillance (2006)
- What is Epi? (2007)
- Workforce Resiliency Modules 1-3 (2008)

Take courses at
www.nwcpHP.org

Bringing experience to the tabletop

A tabletop exercise is a training tool used in preparing for and responding to emergencies and disasters. It is characterized by:

- A fictional scenario of a large scale disaster or emergency (e.g., floods, food borne outbreaks, pandemic influenza)
- A facilitator who leads participants (called "players") through a discussion about a series of incidents depicted in the scenario
- A debriefing to further explore and agree upon issues identified
- An after action report that documents the status of plans and policies with recommended corrective actions

NWCPHP Tabletop Exercises:

- Bioterrorist Attack on Food
- Emergency Preparedness: Business Continuity
- Essential Services of Environmental Health
- Pandemic Influenza
- Recognition and Initial Response to SARS
- The Anarchist — Strategic National Stockpile Activation