Quick Start Food Emergency Response Job Aids

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AFDO 2017 – Houston, TX

June 20, 2017
Objectives

• Become familiar with the Partnership for Food Protection’s Quick Start Food Emergency Response Job Aids and how to use them
I know what you’re thinking...
You’ve got the PFP Quick Start Job Aids!
- Walks you through tasks at initial stage of foodborne outbreak or food emergency
- Easy-to-follow flow diagrams
- Covers communication, coordination, and planning among:
  - Epidemiologists
  - Laboratorians
  - Environmental Health/Regulatory officials
Basic steps immediately after initial notification

- Notify appropriate personnel within your agency of emergency meeting/conference call
  - Epidemiology
  - Environmental (food regulatory officials)
  - Laboratory (food, environmental, clinical)
  - Other – Food emergency response protocols
  - Public affairs press officer

- Identify other key response team agencies and members using emergency response protocols and contact list
  - Law enforcement, if intentional, threats
  - Local, department operations center, state emergency operation center
  - Other stakeholder agencies – local, state, county, CDC, FDA, USDA FSIS, DHS

- Facilitate emergency group meeting / conference call
  - Access secure conference call line
  - Issue invitation with agenda
  - Ensure all participants have proper clearance if required
  - Identify call facilitator and leads for epidemiology, environmental, laboratory, law enforcement agency representatives on call

- Summarize incident event data currently available from each stakeholder and data gaps
  - Epidemiological information
  - Environmental/food information
  - Laboratory information
  - Law enforcement information
  - Current media coverage
Create an action plan

Develop Response Action Plan or Incident Action Plan
- Gathering of additional data
- Determine potential hypothesis if there are illnesses
- Identify response team members, subject matter experts
- Identify additional resources, equipment
- Identify leadership and coordination
- Enforcement/prevention coordination
- Schedule briefing if necessary

Review communication protocols
- Use ICS if activated
- Coordination of media and press events and releases
- Industry, consumers, public records requests
- Senior officials
- Media contacts
- Action plans and situation reports
- Scheduling of future conference calls
- Expansion of response team(s) if necessary
- Information sharing protocols
- Documentation to facilitate after action and final report
Provides simple reminders of concurrent steps

Epi
- Summarize case patient information
- Identify potential sources of Illness & modes of transmission

Environmental Health
- Summarize food vehicle information
- Assess food operations & identify potential hazards

Lab
- Assess capability & capacity for testing
- Conduct tests, review quality control & report results
Focuses on communication & coordination

• Prepare to discuss your findings and actions
• Identify method of information sharing with multi-disciplinary investigation team
• Prepare to discuss communication plans
• Assess resources and request assistance if necessary
Simple preparedness task list

- How do notifications come in and from where?
- Do you have contacts for all these notification groups? And contacts for groups you’ll be coordinating with?
- Are staff properly trained?
- What resources are available if your agency is stretched beyond capacity? How do you ask for help and from whom?
Developed by members of the PFP Surveillance, Response, and Post-Response Workgroup

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Go to the FDA’s Partnership for Food Protection website

- Subscribe to PFP updates by email
- Access all the resource documents developed by PFP
- Get involved – join a workgroup!
Thank you!

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