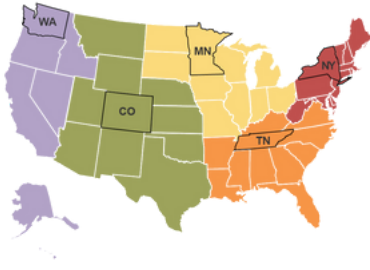


INTEGRATED FOOD SAFETY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE



The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has designated five Integrated Food Safety Centers of Excellence (Food Safety CoEs) that are each comprised of a state health department and an affiliated university partner. The Centers work together to identify model practices in foodborne disease surveillance and outbreak response and to serve as resources to assist other state and local public health professionals in implementing these practices.

Visit the Integrated Food Safety Centers of Excellence Online!



Mail List



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Celebrating 10 years of the Centered on Food Safety Newsletter!

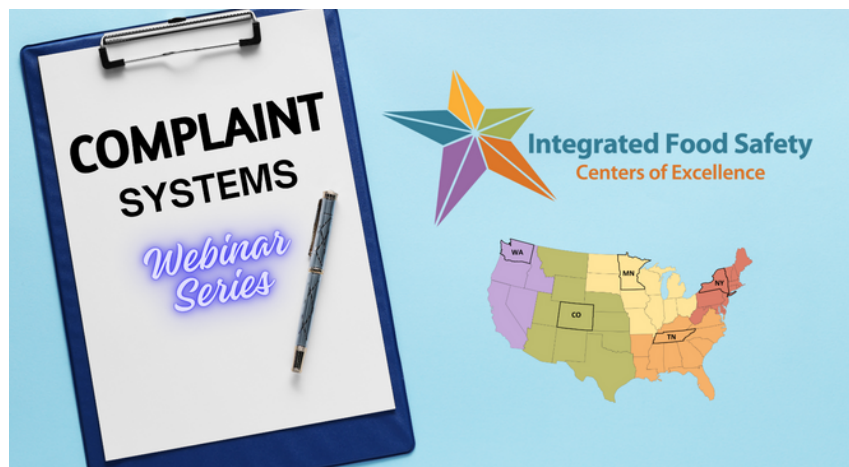


The Food Safety CoEs are celebrating 10 years of the Centered on Food Safety Newsletter by getting your feedback on how we have been doing and what we might be missing.

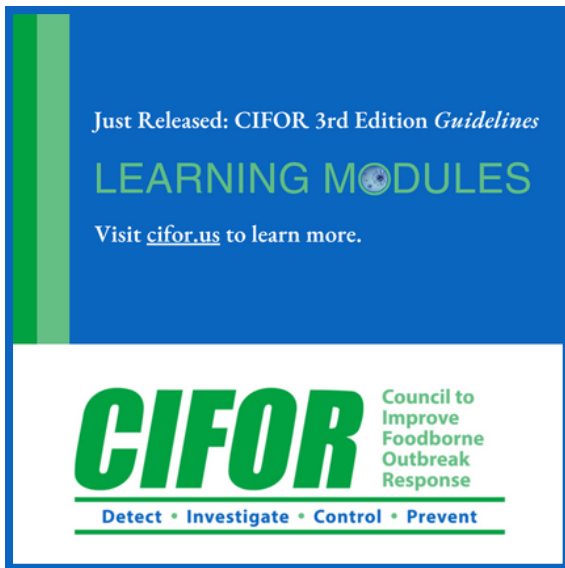
Please take a moment to tell us what you think by filling out this [brief survey](#). Cheers to the next 10 years!

Foodborne Complaint Systems Webinar Series

Foodborne complaint systems have been a hot topic of interest for the past couple of years and the Food Safety CoEs have taken notice. We are planning on hosting a complaint system webinar series and want your input on what we should cover. Please take 30 seconds to fill out our [topics of interest survey](#). We promise it won't take long, it's only one question 😊



Partner Spotlight: CIFOR



Attention all public health professionals, students, healthcare professionals, food industry partners, and laboratory clinicians! Are you looking for ways to be better equipped to handle foodborne disease investigations?

The new CIFOR Guidelines Learning Modules provide summaries of the CIFOR Guidelines, which are a comprehensive resource for local, state, and federal agencies involved in foodborne disease investigation and control and covers various topics such as legal preparedness, planning and preparation, surveillance and outbreak detection, control measures, and multi-jurisdictional outbreaks.

Register [HERE](#) to attend this free online course! #CIFORFood

Engaging with our Partners: Foodborne Outbreak Investigation Training in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

In September 2023, the WA Food Safety CoE partnered with the WA Pathogen Genomics CoE and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) to provide separate outbreak investigation training to the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Healthcare Corporation.

These two-day trainings included workshops detailing case interviewing and foodborne illness complaint tracking strategies, as well as “Epi Ready”-style team-based training to investigate foodborne outbreaks effectively and efficiently. Our discussions about gathering and analyzing data for public health actions were rich, and the excitement and engagement was infectious!



The graduating CNMI class, taught on the beautiful island of Saipan.

Additionally, these trainings allowed our teams to learn more about all of the good work our Pacific Island partners are doing, including their local environmental health response, disease surveillance systems and laboratory capacity. It was exciting to hear about their partnerships with the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network and the Pacific Island Health Officers Association, and we are excited to hear about their continued progress towards establishing WGS on island.

Many thanks to our gracious hosts for making us feel so welcome!

New Asynchronous Whole Genome Sequencing Training!

The Food Safety Centers of Excellence are launching a new, self-paced, training focused on whole genome sequencing (WGS) in public health, the *WGS Curriculum*.

The *WGS Curriculum* aims to provide:

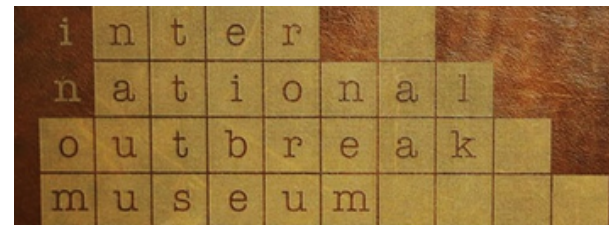
- (i) foundational knowledge needed to understand the genetics and genomics of microbial organisms, as well as the WGS data, how it is acquired and processed
- (ii) intermediary knowledge regarding how WGS data is used to generate outputs, such as allele codes, phylogenetic trees and single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) distance matrices, data visualization using SEDRIC, epi-lab communication
- (iii) advanced knowledge on specific topics (e.g., allele X codes, REP strains) that may present additional challenges to surveillance and outbreak investigation.

The Introductory-level, and middle-level modules are currently available, with an advanced-level module coming up in later in 2024. The course is free to anyone, and a certificate of completion is offered at the end of each module.

Register for the WGS curriculum [HERE](#)

Spotlight: International Outbreak Museum Exhibits

The International Outbreak Museum (IOM) began ~1993 in the office of [Dr. Bill Keene](#) at the Oregon State Health Department, where it is still located to this day. Bill realized early on that outbreak investigations are very public opportunities to teach large audiences about the kinds of foods and products that can become contaminated and cause widespread dissemination of disease. The IOM showcases over 150 different physical outbreak [exhibits](#) with several exhibits available online. Whenever possible, digital exhibits showcase some of the methodology used to investigate the outbreak.



After Bill's untimely passing in 2013, the (former) Oregon Food Safety Center of Excellence worked to expand use of the IOM and create a related website. In 2022, the IOM was officially established as a non-profit organization to continue this work.

The IOM is excited to continue to accept physical or digital exhibits for display! You can [submit exhibits](#) from your or other outbreak investigations via the IOM website.

If you find yourself in the Portland, Oregon area, the IOM is still open for visits (by appointment) from public health and healthcare practitioners.

Please contact the IOM at info@outbreakmuseum.com for more information