CIFOR Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response

Detect • Investigate • Control • Prevent

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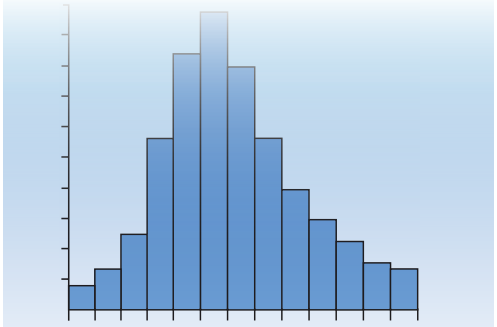
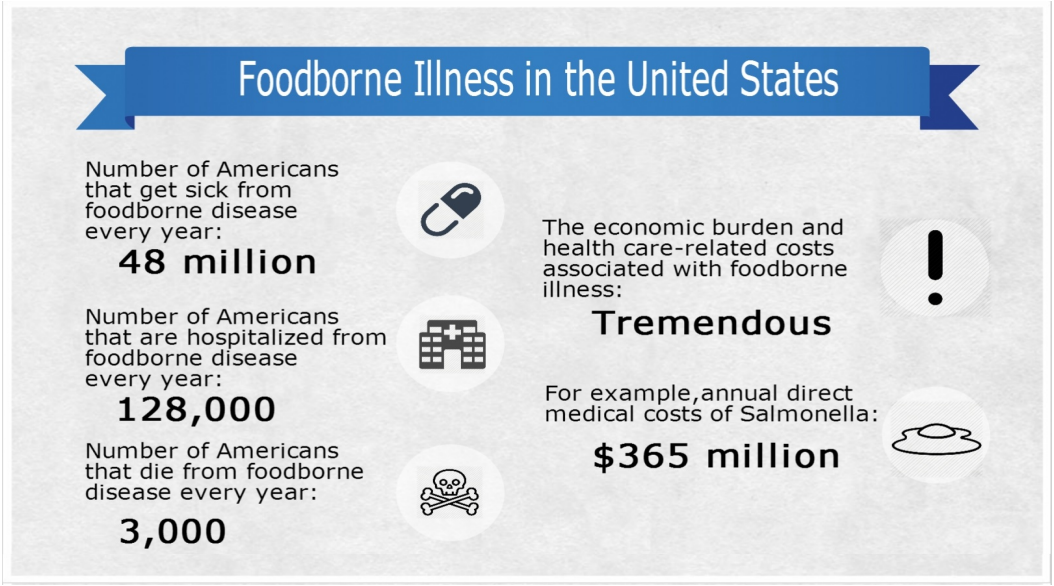


Member Organizations

- Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)
- Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)*
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)*
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
- National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV)
- National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)

*CIFOR is co-chaired by CSTE and NACCHO.

The Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response



The Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR) held its first meeting in 2006. CIFOR is a diverse, multidisciplinary collaboration of national associations and federal agencies whose goal is to improve methods at the local, state, and federal levels to detect, investigate, control, and prevent foodborne disease outbreaks. CIFOR identifies barriers to rapid detection and response to foodborne disease outbreaks and develops projects that address these barriers. The CIFOR member organizations represent epidemiology programs, environmental health programs, public health laboratories, and regulatory agencies involved in foodborne disease surveillance and outbreak response. The food industry is represented on the CIFOR Industry Workgroup.

Tools & Resources

Guidelines for Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response and Toolkit

- The *CIFOR Guidelines for Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response* describe the overall approach to foodborne disease outbreaks, including preparation, detection, investigation, control and follow-up.
- The Guidelines are targeted at local, state and federal agencies that are responsible for preventing and managing foodborne disease.
- The *CIFOR Guidelines Toolkit* assists agencies in self-assessing their programs and implementing appropriate recommendations from the *CIFOR Guidelines*.

Target Ranges for Selected Performance Measures in the CIFOR *Guidelines*

- Provides specific metrics and recommended targets for 16 selected performance indicators in Chapter 8 of the CIFOR Guidelines to help agencies demonstrate their public health performance and effectiveness for foodborne disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and control activities.

Clearinghouse

- An online repository offering foodborne disease outbreak investigation tools and general food safety resources. Visit www.cifor.us.
- Visitors search for existing tools and resources as well as submit new tools and resources.

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Law Project

- An analysis of foodborne disease surveillance and investigation laws in select states.
- A public health practitioner handbook for the implementation of foodborne disease surveillance and investigation laws.
- A menu of recommended legal provisions for consideration by state and local public health officials and policy makers.

CIFOR Industry Guidelines

- Guidelines and tools to guide retail food establishments through a foodborne disease outbreak investigation.
- Taskgroup that developed the guidelines includes representatives from industry as well as local, state, and federal agencies.

Economic Evaluation of PulseNet

- A benefit-cost analysis of PulseNet USA.
- Calculations of measurable direct and indirect costs and benefits of implementing PulseNet.
- Model estimates the number of illnesses averted by both food recalls and industry process changes.

Laboratory-Epidemiology Integrated Reporting Software

- Complimentary, open-source cluster detection software that is database and platform independent
- Facilitates structured reporting of laboratory data, leading to the rapid identification of in-state disease clusters by public health personnel.

Contact CIFOR

For more information about CIFOR and to access available tools and resources, visit: www.cifor.us.

Contact CIFOR at info@cifor.us.