



Disaster Epidemiology Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair: Tess Konen

Staff Lead: Hayleigh McCall

Contact: hmccall@cste.org

CSTE's **Disaster Epidemiology (DE) Subcommittee** brings together epidemiologists from across disciplines to share best practices and collaborate on epidemiologic approaches to improve all-hazard disaster preparedness and response capacities at local, state, regional, and national levels. Activities include: defining disaster epidemiology, identifying training needs and developing training opportunities, developing a repository of tools and methods for responding to and evaluating the impacts of disasters, and convening the Annual National Disaster Epidemiology Workshop.

WORKGROUPS

Disaster Epidemiology Resource Guide

This workgroup is finalizing a document highlighting how various disaster epidemiology methods are being implemented and applied in jurisdictions. It is anticipated to be released in Spring 2019.

Shelter Surveillance Guidance Document

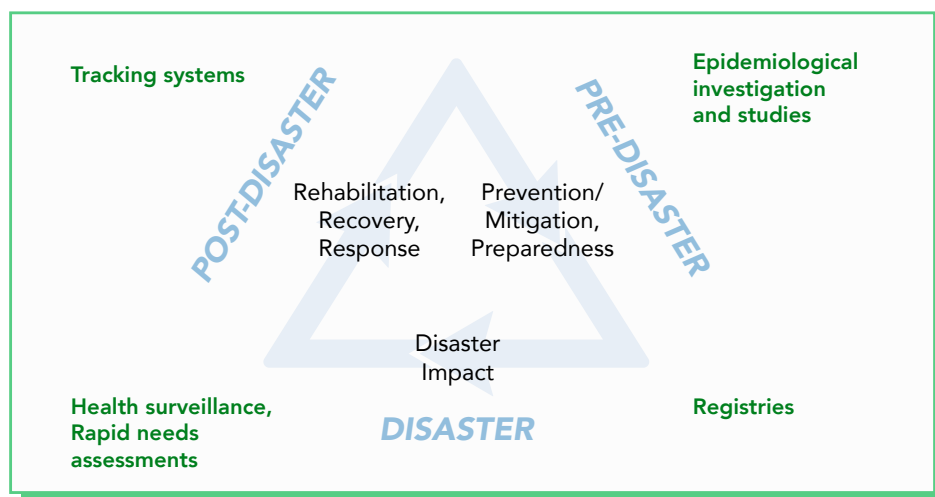
This workgroup is finalizing a guidance document for conducting shelter surveillance during disasters, which is slated for a Spring 2019 release.

Emergency Management (EM) Collaboration

This workgroup is developing a template to demonstrate the value of DE work to EMs and working on standardizing FEMA resource typing for disaster epidemiologists. If you are interested in joining this workgroup, please email Hayleigh McCall at hmccall@cste.org.

DISASTER EPIDEMIOLOGY FRAMEWORK

CSTE, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), created a framework for the inclusion of disaster epidemiology in the disaster management cycle. The framework was published in the American Journal of Public Health¹ in 2014 to assist practitioners at all levels in planning for and responding to emergencies.



The Disaster Management Cycle¹

1. The Role of Applied Epidemiology Methods in the Disaster Management Cycle. Josephine Malilay et al. Am J Public Health. 2014;104:2092-2102. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2014.302010

ANNUAL NATIONAL DISASTER EPIDEMIOLOGY WORKSHOP

Since 2010, CSTE has hosted an annual workshop that brings together national, state, tribal and local public health partners from academic institutions, national non-profit organizations, and governmental organizations at the national, tribal, state and local levels to learn about recent advancements in disaster epidemiology methods and to explore opportunities for new partnerships to improve the public response to emergencies.

The goals of the workshop are to:

1. Provide relevant and timely learning opportunities for epidemiologists, public health emergency preparedness coordinators, emergency managers, and academia in disaster epidemiology.
2. Provide opportunities for attendees to network and build partnerships with epidemiologists from across subject disciplines to share best practices and collaborate on epidemiologic approaches towards improving all-hazard disaster preparedness and response capacities at local, state, regional, and national levels.



Attendees of the 2018 CSTE National Disaster Epidemiology Workshop

CSTE DISASTER EPIDEMIOLOGY TOOL AND RESOURCE REPOSITORY

The CSTE DE Subcommittee identified the need to share information among state, local, and federal epidemiologists on disaster related methods, tools, and lessons learned. To meet this need, the subcommittee has created and continues to maintain a repository of DE tools, reports, and related guidance. Topic areas addressed include:

- Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE)
- Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)
- Community health assessments
- Mortality surveillance
- Morbidity surveillance
- Social vulnerability
- Syndromic surveillance