

Conference for Food Protection Committee FINAL Report

COMMITTEE NAME: Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee

COUNCIL: II

DATE OF REPORT: 12/28/11

SUBMITTED BY: Anna Starobin, Co-Chair
Michèle Samarya-Timm, Co-Chair

COMMITTEE CHARGE(s):

1. Continue to track the progress of prominent disease training programs currently in development; and
2. Report back to the 2012 Biennial Meeting of the Conference for Food Protection.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee (IFITC) created a regular schedule of monthly conference calls to accomplish the committee charges.
- Programs were identified and tracked (see IFITC Attachment A IFITC IFPTI Courses and Attachment B IFITC CIFOR Courses. A significant amount of time was spent clarifying the committee charge and ensuring the work being done stayed within these parameters.
- IFITC defined “prominent disease training programs” as accessible foodborne illness prevention/response education opportunities, of any length, offered at the state or national level.

The IFITC challenged members with the following action items:

1. Identify educational opportunities (trainings, courses, etc.) relevant to the committee charge.
2. Catalogue and compare existing foodborne illness training programs
3. Identify the target audience for existing foodborne illness training programs

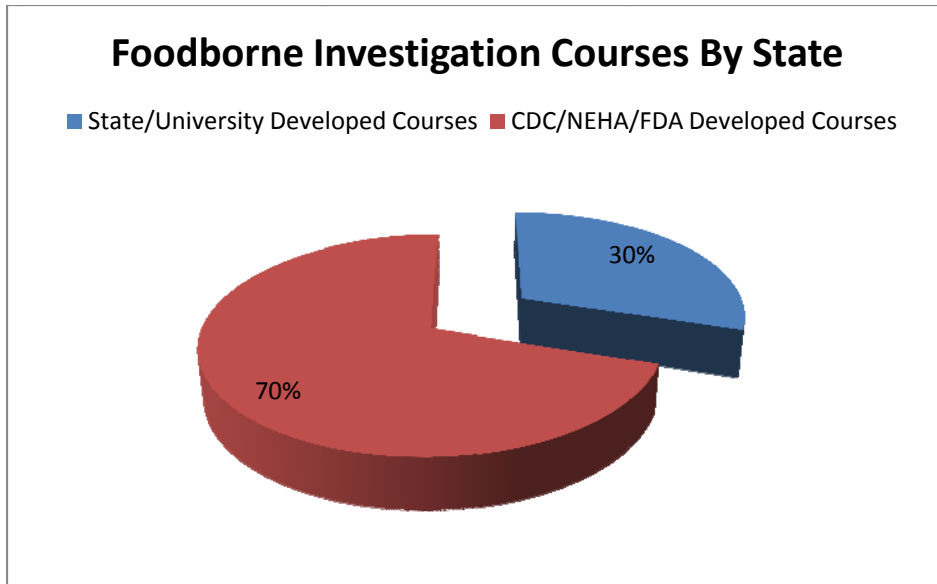
IFITC identified The International Food Protection Training Institute (IFPTI) (www.IFPTI.org) as having a growing database of epidemiology–based trainings for foodborne disease response. IFITC sifted through IFPTI’s course catalogue, and charted all entries that meet the definition of prominent disease training programs.

Individual states were contacted for information regarding their use of foodborne disease training programs. States which are using non-mainstream training programs were asked to describe the courses they use. Most of the states’ training programs are not open to the public or are only available to a limited audience so they are not considered to meet this committee’s definition of prominent courses.

IFITC also identified similar work by the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR). Prominent disease training programs from CIFOR’s assessment were charted for reference.

Findings:

1. Nationally available training programs
35 states (AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, HI, ID, IL, IN, KY, LA, ME, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY) utilize one or more of the following Foodborne Disease Investigation Training resources:
 - FDA ORA-U Foodborne Illness Investigations class
 - CDC/NEHA’s Epi-Ready Foodborne Illness Response Strategies Team Training
2. State developed training programs
15 states (AL, CT, GA, IA, KS, MA, MD, MI, MO, NM, NY, OR, RI, VA, WV) have developed state specific training materials independently or in conjunction with a University.



- IFITC created a chart identifying course parameters, cost, credits, applicability, etc. This information is in two attachments to this report.

Committee Recommendations:

1. To re-create the IFITC to continue to track the progress of prominent disease training program currently developed, identify essential educational content of foodborne disease outbreak training programs; establish evaluating and ranking criteria for identified courses; identify any gaps in foodborne disease outbreak training; consider if levels of foodborne disease outbreak training/retraining are needed;
2. Report back to the 2014 Biennial Meeting of the Conference for Food Protection.

COMMITTEE SUBMITTED ISSUES AND ATTACHMENTS:

- Issue # 1 The Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee Final Report
- Issue # 2 Re-create the Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee
- Attachment A IFITC IFPTI Courses
- Attachment B IFITC CIFOR Courses
- Attachment C 2010-2012 Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Committee Roster