

EMERGING WORKPLACE HAZARDS: **Creating Adaptable and Innovative Safety and Health Training**

May 2–4, 2023 / Indianapolis, Indiana



WORKSHOP SESSION SUMMARY

POST-CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. Session Title and Presenter's Contact Information:

Workshop number and title: 24 An All Hazards Approach to Infectious Disease Training by Simplifying the PSD Training Module

Presenter (s) Name: Jonathan Rosen

Presenter Organization: National Clearinghouse for Worker S&H Training

Presenter Email: Jrosen396@gmail.com

Workshop Summary:

2. The National Clearinghouse developed a pathogen safety guide and training module during the Ebola crisis, 2013 – 14: The goal was to prepare workers to access existing resources to better assess exposure, preventive measures, and engage co-workers, employers, and policy makers to prevent occupational infections. This approach empowers participants to learn about a host of infectious agents using evidenced-based websites and apps. The program features a worksheet, glossary, and case studies to learn about specific infectious agents they are concerned with. The full program is 4 to 6 hours and was at an advanced technical level, deterring its use. **Participants will learn to use a simplified, shorter workshop using the PSD materials.**

3. Methods:

The main activities include participants working in small groups using the worksheet to list occupational infectious agents in their workplaces, downloading the PSD app, learning about available websites, and then working in groups to research characteristics and protective measures for a specific infectious agent or case study. This can be done in 1.5 to 2 hours and avoids excessive lecturing about risk assessment theory and methods. When this shorter approach has been implemented, there was a high level of engagement and satisfaction among participants.

4. Main Points/Key Points Raised from Participants:

- Participants engaged in listing infectious pathogens of concern.
- Participants were able to load the PSD app on their phones and those who could not were able to access the PSD database from the Public Health Agency of Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/laboratory-biosafety-biosecurity/pathogen-safety-data-sheets-risk-assessment.html>
- With only an hour, participants were not able to complete the worksheet or case studies. However, they learned how these participative methods and tools can be used to bolster participant confidence in doing their own research on pathogens of concern in their workplaces and how to access reliable data on pathogen characteristics and exposure control.

EMERGING WORKPLACE HAZARDS: **Creating Adaptable and Innovative Safety and Health Training**

May 2–4, 2023 / Indianapolis, Indiana



- Discussion about the length of time that could be devoted to PSD training and content identified that 1 to 2 hours is typical of the time trainers are able to devote to this type of training. This is partly because there is no OSHA infectious disease standard mandating it.
- Participants were generally supportive of developing an abbreviated PSD training module that mainly used the participative methods outlined in this brief presentation.

5. References:

PSD Materials that can be used in one or two-hour workshop:

<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/index.cfm?id=2554>

- [PSD Glossary](#)(3MB)
- [PSD Guide](#)(10.4MB)
- [PSD Guide and Training Module Fact Sheet](#)(997KB)
- PSD Guide Training Module
 - [Agenda](#)(485KB)
 - [Instructor Guide](#)(3.7MB)
 - [Training Module](#)(24.3MB)
 - [Worksheet](#)(498KB)
 - [Worksheet Answer Key](#)(500KB)
- PSD Guide Training Module Case Studies
 - [Case Study 1: N. Meningitidis Transmission to a Police Officer and Respiratory Therapist](#)(495KB)
 - [Case Study 2: Potential Ebola Exposure to Non-Hospital Environmental Service Workers](#)(493KB)
 - [Case Study 3: Exposure to Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus \(MERS-CoV\) by Transportation and Healthcare Workers](#)(492KB)
 - [Case Study 4: Clostridium Difficile in a Healthcare Worker](#)(493KB)

En Español:

- [Módulo de capacitación sobre datos de seguridad para patógenos](#)(14.6MB)

6. Workshop Handouts/Resources: Attached