



# Enteric Outbreak Management for Long Term Care Homes

## Syllabus

## **Overview:**

Enteric outbreaks, such as those caused by norovirus and other gastrointestinal pathogens, can have significant health implications in retirement homes due to the vulnerability of residents and the close living environment. This module provides a comprehensive guide to recognizing, responding to, and managing enteric outbreaks. Learners will explore surveillance techniques, case and outbreak definitions, transmission pathways, and the implementation of targeted control measures across all departments—including resident care, staff practices, food handling, and environmental services.

## **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this module, learners will be able to:

1. Recognize the early signs and symptoms of gastroenteritis among residents and staff.
2. Identify the conditions that signal a suspected or confirmed enteric outbreak.
3. Implement appropriate outbreak management measures in alignment with public health protocols.
4. Apply surveillance techniques and define cases using standardized criteria.
5. Coordinate outbreak control strategies across multiple operational areas, including laundry, maintenance, dietary, and direct care services.
6. Determine when an outbreak is considered over and implement post-outbreak protocols.

## **Module Outline**

1. Gastroenteritis Susceptibility
2. Symptoms
3. Transmission
4. Surveillance
5. Case Definition
6. Detection & Management
7. Outbreak Definition
8. Suspected Outbreak Definition
9. Outbreak Measures
10. Outbreak Measures – Residents, Staff, Laundry, Maintenance and Food Services
11. Outbreak Over

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