

Epidemiology

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Surveillance and
Outbreak investigation

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1. Which of the following statements is true about surveillance in public health?

- A. Surveillance applies only to infectious diseases.
- B. Surveillance applies to both infectious and non-infectious diseases
- C. Surveillance is only about collecting data without analyzing it.
- D. Surveillance is exclusively for monitoring bioterrorism threats

Answer: B

2. Analysis and Interpretation of Time Trends SECULAR (LONG-TERM) TRENDS

- a. by months
- b. by years
- c. by decades
- d. by seasons

Answer: c

3. Which of the following best describes secular (long-term) trends in disease?

- a. Every season
- b. Every week
- c. Every month
- d. Every decade
- e. Every day

Answer: d

4. Regarding active surveillance, which of the following statements is correct?

- A. The Ministry of Health has to contact healthcare providers regularly
- B. Data is collected passively from healthcare providers
- C. It involves routine data collection without direct engagement with healthcare providers
- D. It relies on routine health records without additional follow-up

Answer: A

5. What is active surveillance?

- a. Conducted by contacting health providers in health care centers
- b. Conducted by relying on health providers to collect surveillance data
- c. Cheap and not expensive
- d. Required by law to be reported to government authorities

Answer: A

6. An outbreak of influenza in a geriatric group with cases occurring for 3 weeks, while the incubation period is less than 5 days, pattern is?

Propagated

7. Active surveillance is?

a. Epidemiologists contact hospitals for records of diseases

8. System in which data: generated without solicitation, intervention or contact by the health agency carrying out the surveillance?

passive surveillance

9. System in which data generated without solicitation, intervention or contact by the health agency carrying out the surveillance?

passive surveillance

10. Data collector checks that the reporting agency is indeed collecting the source data?

active surveillance

11. Case definition includes all of the following except :

- a. Time
- b. Place
- c. Person
- d. Hypothesised agent

Answer: d

Active surveillance can be described as:

- A. Waiting for reports from providers
- B. Proactively seeking out cases
- C. Collecting only hospital records
- D. Depending on media sources
- E. Relying solely on lab confirmations

Answer:b

Spot map is best described as:

- A. A map showing trends over time
- B. A map displaying cases aggregated by region
- C. A map marking individual cases at their locations
- D. A map used only for international outbreaks
- E. A map comparing incidence and prevalence

Answer:c

In an outbreak, cases started on 10 March, reached the maximum on 12 March, peaked on 13 March, and began to decline on 14 March. The epi-curve shape that best represents this outbreak would be:

- A. Plateau or gradual rise and fall
- B. Irregular peaks separated by periods with no cases
- C. Single sharp peak
- D. Multiple peaks (waves) separated by incubation periods
- E. Sharp peak followed by smaller successive peaks

Answer:c

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One of the following outbreaks is best represented by multiple peaks separated by incubation periods in an epi-curve:

- A. Food poisoning at a wedding
- B. Contaminated water supply
- C. Sporadic contamination of restaurant food
- D. Measles
- E. Cholera

Answer:d

An outbreak shows an initial sharp peak followed by smaller successive peaks representing secondary cases. The disease outbreak this pattern best represents:

- A. Measles
- B. Influenza
- C. Food poisoning at a wedding
- D. Cholera
- E. Sporadic food contamination

Answer:d

