**Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P.) Course**

**Epidemiology: Health Surveillance and Early Warning Systems**

**Time allocated: 90 minutes**

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| **Educational Objective: What should participants be able to do at the end of the course** | **Enabling Objectives: The interim steps that build on each other and lead to the final educational objectives**   | **Core issues/ Reference topics** |
| 1. *Participants are able to* take part in setting-up and implementing a functional health surveillance system in an acute and/or protracted crisis situation
 | * 1. *Participants are able to* explain the purpose and intended use of a health surveillance system
 | * Defining (public) health surveillance (WHO)
* Type of monitoring -> continuous process
* Surveillance cycle
* Purpose /role health surveillance in crisis situations
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| * 1. *Participants are able to* explain practical aspects of setting up and/or maintaining a properly functioning health surveillance system
 | * Surveillance types
* Passive - Active
	+ Morbidity surveillance
		- Disease - Syndromic
		- Case definitions -Sensitive, simple & stable
	+ Mortality surveillance
* Surveillance network
	+ Exhaustive - Sentinel
* MoH routine surveillance system - EWARS/N
* Principles of health surveillance in crises
* Data collection, reporting and response process
	+ Case definitions -disease, syndromic *Sensitivity and Specificity* are discussed in module *Outbreak investigation and control*
	+ Reporting form
	+ Demography / estimating number of affected people – discussed in module *Data collection, analysis and sharing*
	+ Daily/Weekly reporting vs immediate alert notification – how to transmit data
		- Alerts thresholds
* Challenges when setting-up / maintaining a surveillance system
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| * 1. *Participants are able to* identify diseases/syndromes to be included in a health surveillance and early warning system during a crisis situation
 | * Key points for diseases surveillance data
	+ Risk assessment
* Diseases endemic in affected area
* Seasonal patterns
* Epidemic prone diseases
* Ability to cause severe morbidity and high mortality
* Availability of prevention & control measures
	+ Maximum number to be included
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