

Investigation of Epidemic

THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION OF AN EPIDEMIC IS FOR ITS CONTROL AND THE PREVENTION OF FUTURE OCCURENCE

Investigation of an epidemics

1

- Establishing the diagnosis
- Confirm the existence of epidemic

2

- Characterized the epidemic- Time, Place and Person
- Treat cases, isolate if possible

3

- Identify source of epidemic
- Attack source and break cycle of transmission

4

- Identify population at risk
- Institute other preventive measures

5

- Continue surveillance
- Write report and communicate findings

Establishing diagnosis

- Take history
- Physical examination
- Laboratory investigation

Characterize the epidemic : Person, Place and Time

Time: What is the exact period of the epidemic?

What is the probable period of exposure?

Is it a point source or propagated epidemic?

Place: Geographical distribution, place of work, attack rate

Person: Age and sex specific distribution, occupation and socio-economic characteristics e.t.c.

Epidemic control measures

- TREAT CASES, ISOLATE IF NECESSARY
- ATTACK SOURCE AND BREAK TRANSMISSION
- INSTITUTE OTHER PREVENTIVE MEASURES SUCH AS BOOSTING IMMUNITY OF SUSCEPTIBLES WHO ARE AT RISK
- CONTINUE SURVEILLANCE

Thank you

Write report and communicate findings

- FACILITATES SHARING OF INFORMATION WHICH CAN BE USEFUL TO OTHERS WHO MAY FIND THEMSELVES IN A SIMILAR POSITION
- DOCUMENTS YOUR EXPERIENCE WHICH CAN BE BUILT ON IN FUTURE