

Online Foot-and-Mouth Disease Emergency Preparation Course

May 24 to June 28, 2022

This online course aims to prepare **veterinarians and veterinary technicians / technologists** for detecting and responding to Foot and Mouth disease (FMD). After completing the course, which is offered in both English and French, veterinarians will have increased knowledge of how to:

- diagnose FMD through clinical and laboratory examination;
- conduct an epidemiological enquiry for FMD;
- enter and leave infected premises in a biosecure manner to prevent the potential introduction and spread of FMD virus; and
- advise livestock owners on the control measures involved in regaining FMD free status.

AHEM is proud to partner with the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association to deliver this important offering.

Visit www.animalhealth.ca/ahem/training for more details and to register.

Course outline:

Week	Modules	Learning Objectives: participants will be able to:
1	Opening webinar: Introduction to FMD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- link the global FMD situation to the risk of an FMD incursion into North America- appreciate the importance of emergency preparedness for FMD- summarize the role of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
	Module 1: Aetiology and Pathogenesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- describe the global significance and distribution of FMD- describe the impact an FMD outbreak would have in Canada- explain the importance of FMD preparedness- discuss FMD susceptible species, with a focus on the main domestic hosts- describe the pathogenesis of FMD- identify routes of transmission of the disease and their relative importance
	Module 2: Clinical Diagnosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- explain how to conduct a thorough clinical examination of an animal suspected to have FMD- recognize the clinical signs of FMD in cattle, small ruminants and pigs- estimate the age of FMD lesions and understand the epidemiological and diagnostic importance of lesion ageing
2	Module 3: Laboratory Diagnosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- describe the diagnostic tools available for FMD detection- explain how to take appropriate samples to enable FMD laboratory diagnosis
	Module 4: Field Epidemiological Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- describe the routes and risk factors for FMD transmission, and their relative importance- construct a timeline showing the key events during an FMD outbreak on a premises- use the timeline to carry out source and spread tracing, and recognize the importance of prioritizing dangerous contacts for tracing- outline effective communication methods to use when liaising with livestock owners during an FMD outbreak

Week	Modules	Learning Objectives: participants will be able to:
3	Module 5: Biosecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relate the characteristics of FMD virus and its environmental resistance to appropriate biosecurity strategies - describe the risks of FMD virus spread associated with veterinary personnel - describe the key elements of biosecurity - explain how to effectively use personal protective equipment (PPE) to reduce risk of FMD virus spread - explain how to establish an effective cleaning and disinfection protocol for use when visiting premises suspected of FMD infection
	Module 6: Contingency Planning and Emergency Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explain the legislative basis of FMD control in Canada - explain the overall policy aims of a Canadian FMD response - recognize the importance of preparing FMD contingency plans - describe the roles and responsibilities of the organizations and management structures involved in FMD preparedness and response in Canada - outline Canada's foreign animal disease contingency plan approach including CFIA's FMD Hazard Specific Plan - describe the control measures which would be applied if FMD was confirmed in Canada
4	Module 7: FMD Vaccination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explain the key features of FMD vaccines, and the challenges for use in disease control - outline the vaccination strategies which might be used in the event of an outbreak (protective and suppressive vaccination) - summarize the implications of FMD vaccination on the time taken to disease freedom recognition by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) - outline the process undertaken in Canada to decide whether or not FMD vaccination will be used.
	Closing webinar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explain how vaccination might be used to control an FMD outbreak in North America - explain aspects of the OIE code relevant to regaining FMD free status - explain how an emergency response to an FMD outbreak would be organized in Canada

In weeks two, three, and four participants are required to participate in **scenario-based exercises** using knowledge gained from the material presented in the modules studied in the previous week.

During the final week of the course, an **interactive simulated tabletop exercise** will occur using the *Conductrr* platform. This exercise will require participants to use their knowledge to age vesicular lesions, determine the appropriate samples to take, define potential sources of introduction and prioritize tracing actions.

To receive CE credits for this course the participant must have completed all seven training modules, participated in the scenario-based exercises, and successfully passed the final assessment.

Updated: 25-Mar-22