



The Dynamic Preparedness Simulator for FAZD outbreaks

The Dynamic Preparedness Simulator (DPS) addresses a significant gap in emergency response management for potential outbreaks of foreign animal and zoonotic diseases (FAZDs) in the United States.

FAZDs pose catastrophic risks to human health, livestock health and the national agricultural economy. Any FAZD outbreak presents a complex response challenge that swiftly involves decision makers at the local, state and federal levels.

To coordinate a rational and effective response, these decision makers require immediate access to a wide range of frequently updated information, such as databases, charts, maps, photos, memos, policies and plans.

The DPS organizes this information into an online dashboard system. It provides each of these decision makers with a consolidated view of synchronized data concerning the outbreak from multiple sources of information.

By clicking on any of the dashboard's windows, decision makers may select the information they require and view it instantly in the center window.

At the request of the DHS Office of Health Affairs, the FAZD Center collaborated with the National Center for Food Protection and Defense to adapt the DPS for training emergency responders to apply products from the National Bio-Surveillance Integration System.

The DPS provides emergency response managers access to FAZD-based modeling, decision-support, and situational awareness tools during training or during an actual FAZD event. It will also be used to analyze information in the aftermath of an outbreak to develop lessons learned and best practices. Thus the DPS is an effective tool for every stage of the emergency response life cycle.



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