

Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT)
Health Alert Network (HAN)
March 17, 2022

Free CME Training Available-University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Sanitation Health Study

As a result of environmental conditions in parts of Alabama as well as in other states, areas of rural Alabama may be at risk the for re-emergence of soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH). This includes but is not limited to the agricultural Black Belt region. Whether or not soil transmitted helminths are endemic in certain areas, is an issue that continues to be asked in Alabama. UAB along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Alabama Department of Public Health and several other partners identified in the description for the course being offered, are working to definitively answer this question while providing education to providers statewide

Course Description

The course is being offered as part of a CDC-funded public health promotion project to expand surveillance for sanitation-related infections across West Central Alabama, educate both healthcare workers and the public regarding sanitation-related health concerns and link residents to resources to address inadequate home sanitation systems. This project is a collaborative effort between UAB, the West Central Alabama Area Health Education Center (AHEC), the Rural Health Medical Program, Inc. (RHMP), the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), and the Consortium for Rural Alabama Water and Wastewater Management (CFRAWAWM) and the CDC. Our intent is to work closely with the CDC, the state and local ADPH, and healthcare providers providing health services for at-risk communities. Working with these community organizations and residents in the affected communities to ensure all stakeholders are involved in project planning and implementation is vital to the success of this project.

Providers can register for the Sanitation Health course at <https://prostudies.uab.edu/corporate/landingPage.do?method=load&corporateGroupId=34583611>. The registration should take less than 5 minutes and then access to the course is granted 30 minutes after it is complete. The course is a free on-demand course that is relevant to any health care provider in the state. The full time to complete the course is approximately one hour.

You will need to create a Blazer ID, Student ID, and password or if you already have these, use them to access the course after registering. Once you have loaded the course into your cart and you have checked out, you are ready to proceed to the course. Please go to <https://uabonline.instructure.com/> and use your BlazerID and associated password to log in.

Reminder on Alabama Notifiable Diseases

Physicians, dentists, nurses, medical examiners, hospital administrators, nursing home administrators, lab directors, school principals, and day care directors are responsible for reporting Notifiable Diseases in Alabama. The list of notifiable diseases is available at the REPORT link provided under For Additional Information and includes “outbreaks of any kind” defined as 2 or more similarly ill persons who live in

different households and have a common exposure as well as “cases of public health importance” as determined by the reporting provider. Thus, soil transmitted helminths including but not limited to hookworms could meet either of the above conditions and are thus reportable to ADPH.

For Additional Information:

Bureau of Communicable Diseases, Infectious Diseases and Outbreaks REPORT
[REPORT | Alabama Department of Public Health \(ADPH\) \(alabamapublichealth.gov\)](#)

Pediatric Medicaid Visits for Soil-Transmitted Helminth Infections in the Black Belt Region-Alabama, 2010-2018; <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35073505/>

Community Assessment of Knowledge and Concerns About Open Sewage and Related Illnesses, Lowndes County, Alabama, May 22-24, 2018
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/lowndes_county_community_assessment_2018.05.pdf