# Epi CASE Toolkit Fact Sheet

During an exposure incident, state, local, tribal, and territorial authorities need to determine who might have been exposed and the potential health effects. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed an exposure and health outcome assessment toolkit you can use to help make those determinations.

The **Epi** Contact Assessment Symptom Exposure **(CASE) toolkit**

* consists of a standardized data collection tool to register an affected population (including responders) by incident using specific instructions,
* is to be used by state and local health departments to guide them to what epidemiologic tool should be used when they decide an incident warrants data collection, and
* provides resources to learn more about the long-term health outcomes of an affected community.

**How is the Epi CASE toolkit used?**

The Epi CASE toolkit gives local and state public health and disaster response agencies a way to rapidly assess persons who are affected, exposed, or potentially exposed to chemical, radiological, biological, nuclear agents, or other harmful agents during incidents. The data collected through the toolkit can be used to generate simple descriptive statistics. The information also can be used as the basis for other epidemiologic follow up, including health studies, community assessments, health assessments, or health registries to learn more about the affected community.

**What is included in the toolkit?**

The Epi CASE toolkit contains materials that can easily be downloaded and customized for use. **Epi CASE Getting Started** is a guide to explain how to use the toolkit. **Epi CASE Considerations** and the **Epi CASE Decision Support Tool** guide users on the best epidemiologic approach to take to address a community concern with the available Epi CASE data.

The **Epi CASE form** is a one-page form, distributed on paper or electronically. You can use the form to rapidly collect information to identify and locate victims and people displaced or affected by a disaster. Using the form, it only takes 5 minutes or less to collect basic information, including the following:

* Demographics (e.g., name, age, sex, home address, phone number)
* Emergency contact information
* Exposure information
* Immediate health and safety needs

The form also has an **Epi CASE survey, informed consent form,** and **Just-in-Time training**. You can use the **Epi Info™ 7 database** to collect and manage the form data. Data can be downloaded, queried, and analyzed quickly while in the field to support response decisions.

During an emergency, if you need immediate assistance, you can also contact the CDC Emergency Operations Center any time at **770-488-7100** and ask to speak with someone from the Epi CASE team.