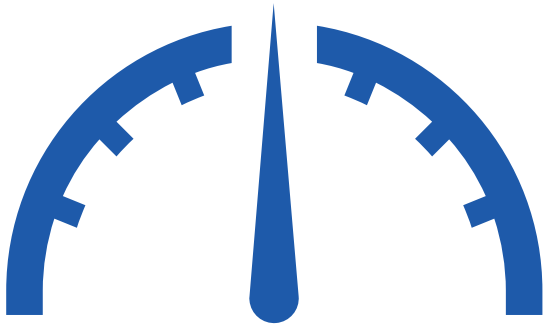
Activity 1: Deciding which analytic approach is best

Case Study 3 – Viral hemorrhagic fever in a returning traveler

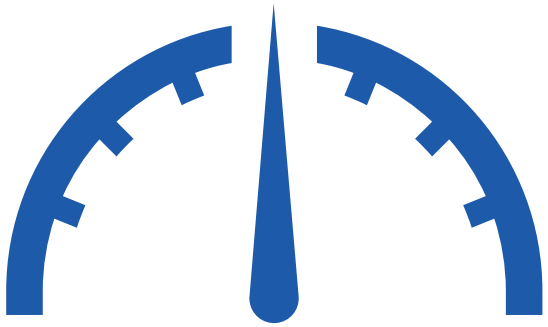
Case Study 3: You are the health officer in a large metropolitan jurisdiction. You were just informed by the city's main hospital that a healthcare worker recently returned from an international support trip and has been diagnosed with a viral hemorrhagic fever. A preliminary medical history interview conducted by hospital staff revealed that the patient first experienced symptom onset the day before they presented to care and had commuted via public transit while symptomatic. You anticipate media attention and public concern about how travelers, commuters, and the public may be impacted.

Which approach is best?



Qualitative Risk Assessment!

Which approach is best?



Qualitative Risk Assessment!

Why qualitative risk assessment?

- It is very early in a potential outbreak and quantitative data are not available.
- Qualitative risk assessments can draw on previous experiences and expert input to assess the situation and provide a framework for communicating possible impact and likelihood of an outbreak.

Information relevant for the modeling and analytics team

- Data that would be helpful to share:
  - Local capacity for responding to a potential outbreak of viral hemorrhagic fever (e.g., resources, staff, hospital capacity, etc.)
  - Demographic information about the various subpopulations within the city that might have been exposed or at higher risk epidemiologically
  - Transit patterns for public transportation networks

- Relevant epidemiologic information to share:
  - Historical epidemiological information on infectiousness of viral hemorrhagic fevers

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov