

Instructions for Lost at Sea Exercise

Provide each Epi Team member with a copy of the Lost at Sea Exercise. One team member should keep time and read the instructions for each part of the exercise.

Part 1: Individual Ranking (10 minutes)

Each person should rank the 14 items in order of importance. During this time, the team members should not discuss their rankings with each other.

Part 2: Group Ranking (10 minutes)

Team members should then confer and decide on the **team's** priority ranking of the 14 items. One person should write the final ranking on a paper or flip chart.

Part 3: Group Discussion (10 minutes)

Team members should then compare their individual rankings with those determined by the group as a whole. Use the following questions to guide the group discussion.

- How were decisions made in your team?
- Was there conflict during the group discussion?
- How did you feel about the decisions made by the team?
- Did your individual rankings differ from the rankings chosen by the team?
- If you would re-rank your list based on the group discussion, what changed your mind?

- What aspects of the group discussion were most successful?
- How might the group discussion have been improved?

- What have you learned about how your Epi Team communicates?
- What situations in your job do you think are like this exercise?

- How can you apply the lessons from this exercise to your work as an Epi Team?

Part 4: Suggested Answers (5 minutes)

The focus of this exercise is to improve the functioning of your Epi Team. However, team members are usually curious about the suggested answers. Share copies of the suggested answers and rationale with the team, and compare it with the final team rankings.